GAZETTEER OF INDIA

MYSORE STATE

COORG DISTRICT

MYSORE STATE GAZETTEER

COORG DISTRICT

BY

B. N. SRI SATHYAN, B.A. (HONS.),
Chief Editor, Mysore Gazetteer,
Bangalore.

PRINTED BY
THE DIRECTOR OF PRINTING, STATIONERY AND PUBLICATIONS
AT THE GOVERNMENT PRESS, BANGALORE
1965

PREFACE

THE earliest attempt to bring out District Gazetteers in Mysore State was made in June 1867, when Mr. Saunders, the officiating Chief Commissioner, wrote to the Superintendents of Divisions directing them to compile a gazetteer for each district. Though nine manuscript volumes were prepared in the next two years, only two relating to the districts of Mysore and Kolar were published. About Coorg, Lieut. Connor of the Royal Engineers wrote a clear and comprehensive book in 1817 under the name "Memoir of the Codagu Survey" and in 1855, Dr. H. Moegling, the first Protestant Missionary in Coorg, wrote a little book entitled " Coorg Memoirs ". In 1870, the Basel Mission Book Depository published " The Manual of Coorg—a Gazetteer of the natural features of the country and the social and political conditions of its inhabitants " compiled by Rev. G. Richter who was the Principal, Government Central School, Mercara, and Inspector of Coorg Schools. This publication took into account the great changes that had taken place in the previous thirty-six years during which the province of Coorg was under British rule and gave a sketch of the past history and physical and political position of Coorg at that time.

With the sanction of the Government of India, Mr. B. Lewis Rice, who was the Director of Archaeological Researches and the Director of Public Instruction in Mysore and Coorg, was entrusted in 1873 with the work of compilation of the Gazetteer of Mysore and Coorg. He prepared three volumes, the first of Mysore State in general, the second of Mysore by districts and the third devoted entirely to Coorg, which was published as Volume III in 1878 under the series " Mysore and Coorg ". Another publication containing articles drafted by Mr. B. Lewis Rice from notes received on various technical subjects from the departments concerned was published in the first decade of this century in a volume entitled " Provincial Gazetteers of India— Mysore State " in which a section was devoted entirely to Coorg.

The old gazetteers were mainly intended to give background information to the foreign administrators about the district and the people. After the attainment of independence, this outlook has undergone a change and the gazetteers will have to focus more on the history, culture and people and pinpoint the progress achieved and benefits that have accrued to the people as the result of the implementation of the successive Five-Year Plans.

The Ministry of Education, Government of India, drew up an all-India scheme and requested the State Governments to take

CONTENTS

up the compilation of District Gazetteers as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and promised a grant-in-aid. The Government of Mysore sanctioned a scheme for the compilation of a gazetteer for each one of the districts of the State. An Advisory Board consisting of the Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore as the Chairman and Dr. D. C. Pavate, M.A. (Cantab), Sri V. L. D'Souza, B.A., B.COM. (Lond.), Sri P. H. Krishna Rao, M.A., Prof. K. A. Nilakanta Sastri, M.A., and Dr. S. C. Nandimath, M.A. Ph.D. (Lond.) as Members was also constituted to scrutinise the chapters compiled by me and to guide me in the work. The Central Gazetteers Unit, New Delhi, have also thoroughly scrutinised the various chapters and made useful suggestions with a view to improving the standard of this volume.

The Gazetteer of Coorg is the first to be published in the series of District Gazetteers of Mysore State. The chapter headings and contents are in accordance with the pattern laid down by the Government of India. Its publication was held up for some time in order to include the figures of the 1961 Census. The available Census data of 1961 have been given and in other cases the figures of the 1951 Census had to be depended upon. Every attempt has been made to include the latest figures as far as possible.

I have received valuable co-operation and assistance from various sources and I take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Advisory Board, the Central Gazetteers Unit, Sri D. N. Krishnayya of Mercara, the Indian Meteorological Department, the Survey of India, the Director of Printing, Stationery and Publications, and the departments of the State Government. I have also received valuable assistance from the members of my staff consisting of Sri A. Ramakrishnan, Administrative Officer, Sriyuths P. B. Srinivasan, K. Puttaswamaiah, J. G. Alavandar Naidu and M. A. Narasimha Iyengar, Editors, (the first two of whom have since left the Department), K. L. Anantha Raman and G. V. Subbaramu, Stenographers, N. K. Neelakantaradhya, Assistant and M. Rudrappa, Junior Assistant. Sri K. Abhishankar, who joined the staff recently as Editor, has rendered assistance at the stage of printing the Gazetteer. To all of them, my gratitude is due.

BANGALORE,
Dated 9th August, 1965.

B. N. SRI SATHYAN,
Chief Editor.

COORG DISTRICT

CHAPTER I

GENERAL

COORG is unlike most of the other districts of Mysore State, in that it is not named after its headquarters town. It is popularly known as Kodagu, derived from Kodimalenad, which means dense forest land on steep hills. Lt. Connor, in his Memoir of the Coorg Survey, is of the view that it may mean "country of millions of hills" to indicate the hilly nature of the country. According to other sources, the word "Kodagu" means situated to the west and the area came to be called by that name because it lies on the western portion. Coorg is the anglicized form of the word "Kodagu", but even now it is called and written in Kannada by its original name. **Origin of the name.**

Coorg district lies on the summits and the eastern and western slopes of the Western Ghats. It is situated on the south-west of Mysore State and lies between North Latitude 11° 56′ and 12° 50′ and East Longitude 75° 22′ and 76° 11′. Its greatest length from the Hemavathi river in the north to the Brahmagiri range in the south is about 60 miles and its greatest breadth from Sampaje in the west to Kushalnagar in the east is about 40 miles. **Location.**

It is bounded on the north by the Hassan district, on the east by the Mysore district, on the west by the South Kanara district, all of Mysore State, and on the south by the Cannanore district of Kerala State. The shape of the district on the map has been compared to that of an infant's knitted sock, the heel pointing north-west and the toe south-east. A narrow arm about 12 miles long and about six miles wide projects northwards into Hassan district on the north-east. **General boundaries.**

Coorg is the smallest district in Mysore State and in population also it is the lowest. The area of the district is 1,590 square **Area and Population.**

miles or 4,118.1* square kilometres. The population of the district according to the 1961 Census is 322,829. In density, with a population of 203 persons, per square mile, it ranks far below the State average of 319.

Administrative history of the district.

No particulars in detail of the administration of Coorg in the early period of the Coorg Rajas are available. Muddu Raja, who ruled over Coorg between 1633 and 1687, at first had his capital at Haleri and later shifted the seat of government to Mercara, which town he founded and named after himself as Mudduraja Keri, later corrupted to Madikeri or Mercara. At this period, the limits of the principality seem to have been confined to Coorg proper. In later years, more territories were added to it. Sulya was acquired by purchase, Amara was the gift of the Bednur Raja to one of the Kodagu chiefs; Panje and Bellare were acquired from Haidar, partly because he desired to have peace with the mountaineers and partly as compensation for certain agreements violated by him, and Yelusaviraseeme was added by conquest. In 1804, the British, in consideration of the singular services rendered by the Chief of Coorg, ceded to him the taluk of Puttur which had formed a portion of the Canara Collectorate. Thus, during the reign of Vira Rajendra, Coorg consisted of two distinct parts, one above the ghats occupying an area of 1,585 square miles and the other below the ghats occupying an area of 580 square miles. The total area of Coorg then was 2,165 square miles and it was divided into five taluks as follows:—

	Taluks.		*Area in square miles*
1.	Yelusaviraseeme	..	92
2.	Kiggatnad	..	313
3.	Coorg proper	..	1,180
4.	Sulya including Amara	..	277
5.	Puttur	..	303
	Total	..	2,165

A taluk consisted of a number of smaller divisions known as nads or hoblies which were further sub-divided into gramas or villages which, in Coorg proper, were made up of a number of vargas or farms, since the Coorgs generally live on detached farms instead of in villages with a number of houses joined into one community.

* According to the figures furnished by the Survey of India, the area of the district is 1,586.78 square miles or 4,109.73 square kilometres. See also Appendix—Table I.

The British accused Vira Raja, last of the Coorg Rajas, of maladministration, put an end to his power, and assumed the administration of Coorg in May 1834. Lt. Col. J. S. Fraser, representative of the Governor-General of India, informed all the chief men of Coorg whom he had assembled, of the deposition of the Raja and called upon them "to express their wishes without apprehension or reserve, in regard to the form of Government which they desired to be established for the future government of the country". The headmen unanimously expressed that Coorg be ruled in future by the same laws and regulations which were in force in the East India Company's dominions. Thereupon, Fraser issued a proclamation in 1834 which declared that Coorg was annexed, because it was the wish of the people to be ruled by the British Government.

At the same time, the two taluks of Amara-Sulya and Puttur below the ghats comprising an area of 580 square miles were, for administrative convenience, separated from Coorg and once again added to the Collectorate of South Kanara. The remaining territory, which included the whole of Coorg proper together with Kiggatnad on the south and Yelusaviraseeme on the north, comprising an area of 1,585 square miles, was formed into the separate province of Coorg and placed under the Government of India.

After the annexation of Coorg by the British Government, it was divided into six taluks and twenty-four nads comprising 508 villages, besides the towns of Mercara, Virajpet, Fraserpet, Somwarpet, Kodlipet and Ponnampet. The names of taluks, nads, their area and the number of villages as they existed at that time are given below :—

Name of Taluk	*Nad or Hobli*	*Area in sq. miles*	*Number of villages*
1. Mercara ..	Mercara-Halcri-nad ..	49	15
	Kagodlu-nad ..	40	6
	Horur-Nurokkal-nad ..	39	11
	Hudikeri-Kanta-Murnad ..	49	14
	Ulugule-Mudigeri-nad ..	32	11
	5	209	57
2. Padinalknad	Padinalknad .	142	12
	Kadiadnad ..	51	12
	Tavunad ..	139	9
	Benganad ..	42	11
	Kuinkeri ..	39	13
	5	413	57

	Name of Taluk	Nad or Hobli		Area in sq. miles	Number of villages
3.	Yedenalknad	Yedenalknad	..	92	22
		Deppunad	..	41	8
		Ammatnad	..	77	19
		3		210	49
4	Kiggatnad ..	Anjikerinad	..	89	15
		Thavalakerinad	..	110	15
		Hattugatnad	..	112	13
		Betiednad	..	89	20
		4		400	63
5.	Nanjaraj-patna.	Surlabi-Gadinad	..	113	21
		Yedavanad	..	94	37
		Nanjarajpatna	..	55	26
		Ramaswami-kanave	..	..	30
		4		262	114
6.	Yelusavira-seeme.	Kodli	..	27	55
		Bilhada	..	18	40
		Nidtha	..	46	73
		3		91	168
Grand Total	6	24		1,585	508

The total area of Coorg has remained the same since 1834, though there have been several changes from time to time in the internal divisions to suit administrative convenience. But even in respect of the total area, there have been slight variations now and then by a few square miles; this is not because any area has been lost or gained but because of some mathematical calculations adopted. This accounts for different figures appearing about the areas of taluks and even of the district as a whole in different sections. The people of Coorg live in isolated homesteads and the Coorg village is merely a revenue expression denoting the area lying within certain boundaries and therefore certain variations in their number also occur.

The number of taluks remained the same as it was at the time when Coorg was annexed and brought under the control of

the Government of India, *i.e.*, six, but there was some re-adjustment in the boundaries of taluks. The names of taluks and their area in square miles as they existed in 1891 are given below :—

	Taluk			*Area in square miles*
1.	Mercara	..	..	216.30
2.	Padinalknad	..	..	399.90
3.	Yedenalknad	..	..	201.45
4.	Kiggatnad	..	..	410.45
5.	Nanjarajpatna	..	..	263.89
6.	Yelusaviraseeme	..	..	90.82

There were 492 villages and five towns.

Each taluk was directly administered by a local officer called Subedar and, as mentioned earlier, each taluk was subdivided into nads or hoblies, the head of which was styled Parpathigar.

With a view to reducing expenditure, the taluk of Yelusaviraseeme, comprising the three hoblies of Bilhada, Kodli and Nidtha, was abolished in 1894 and was amalgamated with Nanjarajpatna taluk, thus reducing the number of taluks from six to five. The area of the reconstituted taluks and the number of villages at the time of the Census of 1911 were as follows :—

	Taluk		*Square Miles*	*Villages*
1.	Mercara	..	227	57
2.	Padinalknad	..	399	60
3.	Yedenalknad	..	218	56
4.	Kiggatnad	..	421	68
5.	Nanjarajpatna	..	317	254

There was another re-adjustment in the boundaries of the four taluks of Nanjarajpatna, Mercara, Padinalknad and Yedenalknad in 1916, when certain revenue circles were abolished for administrative reasons and there was also a reduction in the number of villages due to grouping together of certain villages.

The variations in the areas and number of villages after the re-adjustment in 1916 are given below :—

	Taluk		*Area*	*No. of villages*
1.	Mercara	..	310	68
2.	Padinalknad	..	395	64
3.	Yedenalknad	..	221	57
4.	Kiggatnad	..	421	68
5.	Nanjarajpatna	..	235	121

There was no change in the boundary of Coorg and yet the area of the province was put down in 1932 as 1,593 square miles showing an increase of 11 square miles over the previous figures. The difference in area was due to the increase noticed in respect of South Coorg from the 1921 survey.

The five taluks were, for administrative purposes, reduced to four in 1921 by combining the two taluks of Padinalknad and Yedenalknad into one, giving the name Padi-Yedenalk Nad to the new taluk. The names of the four taluks after this change in 1921 were: (1) Mercara, (2) Padi-Yedenalk Nad, (3) Kiggat Nad and (4) Nanjarajpatna.

There was yet another change in the very next year *i.e.*, 1922, when the two taluks of Padi-Yedenalk Nad and Kiggat Nad were combined into one to form the new South Coorg taluk with effect from 1st September 1922. The new South Coorg taluk comprised an area of 822.19 square miles and consisted of five nads, *viz.*, (1) Virajpet Nad, (2) Napoklunad, (3) Ammathi Nad, (4) Ponnampet Nad and (5) Srimangala Nad. The names of the three taluks in existence in September 1922 were (1) Mercara, (2) Nanjarajpatna and (3) South Coorg.

In 1926, the two taluks of Mercara and Nanjarajpatna were also amalgamated into one taluk under the name of North Coorg, comprising an area of 759.47 square miles. After this change, there were only two taluks consisting of 11 Nads, as follows :—

Taluk	*Nads*	*Area in sq. miles*
1. North Coorg ..	1. Mercara Nad 2. Bhagamandala Nad 3. Suntikoppa Nad 4. Somwarpet Nad 5. Sanivarasanthe Hobli 6. Fraserpet Hobli	759.47
2. South Coorg ..	1. Virajpet Nad 2. Napoklu Nad 3. Ammathi Nad 4. Ponnampet Nad 5. Srimangala Nad	822.19

The river Cauvery formed the dividing line between the two taluks. Simultaneously with the reduction in the number of the taluks to two, several villages were amalgamated for administrative reasons, reducing the number of villages from 378 to 298. The area of the two taluks has also varied from time to time

and their area at the time of the Censuses of 1931 and 1941 is given below :—

Taluk		*Area in square miles* 1931	1941
1. South Coorg	..	833	980
2. North Coorg	..	760	613
Total	..	1,593	1,593

The decrease in the area of the North taluk and increase in the area of the South taluk during the decade 1931-41 was due to the abolition of two nads in 1938 as a measure of retrenchment and the redistribution of their villages among the remaining nads in the two taluks. During the year 1938. Suntikoppa and Bhagamandala Nads of North Coorg were abolished and the villages of these two Nads were distributed amongst Fraserpet and Mercara Nads. But these two Nads were revived with effect from 1st October 1952 and the number of taluks and Nads remained the same as it was in 1926.

With effect from 15th December 1953, the internal divisions of Coorg State were regrouped to facilitate efficient administration and a third taluk known as Mercara taluk comprising Mercara Nad and Bhagamandala Nad of the North Coorg taluk and Napoklu Nad of the South Coorg taluk was formed and the names of the remaining portions of the North and South Coorg taluks were changed to Somwarpet and Virajpet. With effect from the same date, the villages of Abbiatmangala and Nellia-Hudikeri were transferred from Ammathi Nad to Fraserpet Hobli.

The original name of Kushalnagar, which had been changed to Fraserpet in honour of Lt Col. Fraser, was restored and the place is now once again called Kushalnagar.

Sub-divisions-Taluks and Nads.

The district is divided into three taluks which are again sub-divided into eleven nads or hoblies consisting of 277 villages. The present administrative divisions of Coorg are as follows :—

COORG DISTRICT

	Area in sq. miles	*Sq. Kilo-metres*	*Population* (1961)	*Nad or Hobli*
1. Somwarpet Taluk—				
	386.0	999.8	109,417	Sanivarasanthe Hobli. Somwarpet Nad. Kushalnagar Hobli. Suntikoppa Nad.

2. Mercara Taluk—				
	566.0	1,465.9	79,540	Mercara Nad. Bhagamandala Nad. Napoklu Nad.
3. Virajpet Taluk—				
	638.0	1,052.4	133,872	Virajpet Nad. Ammathi Nad. Ponnampet Nad. Srimangala Nad.
Total 3	1,590.0	4,118.1	322,820	11

Natural Divisions.

Coorg is a picturesque highland occupying the eastern and western slopes of the western ghats, clothed with primeval forests or grassy glades and broken by a few cultivated valleys. The physical features of the district are varied. The southern, western and north-western portions are intersected by a network of hills and forests subject to heavy rainfall. The north-eastern and most of the eastern portions are different and resemble the adjoining Mysore district. The drainage of the country is all to the east except on the western ghats where it flows west. The old fort at Mercara stands about 3,800 feet above sea level, and this elevation is maintained for a considerable distance towards the north. Towards the east, the country slopes down towards the Cauvery, the elevation of Kushalnagar being some 1,100 feet lower than that of Mercara.

The general appearance of the country varies considerably in the different parts. In the vicinity of Somwarpet, in the north of Coorg, the hills are generally rounded, alternating with sloping glades interspersed with clumps of forest trees, resembling the finest park scenery in Europe. Near Mercara, the hills are closer together and more abrupt and the ravines deeper and more wild. Towards Kushalnagar, the country assumes the character of the Mysore plateau with scattered solitary hills. South of Mercara in the direction of Virajpet, the country is open, the woods are neither dense nor high and beautiful grassy downs rise from extensive rice valleys. The eastern frontier between the Cauvery and the Lakshmanathirtha rivers exhibits an almost uninterrupted jungle, deciduous in character. West of this, the forest is evergreen, largely intermixed with bamboos, forming what is known as the Bamboo district.

Viewed from an eminence, the whole of the southern portion of the country presents the appearance of one great forest interspersed by valleys which after August appear green with paddy crop. In the north, the country becomes open towards the east while to the west and north, the country rises to high peaks

measuring from 3,800 feet to 5,724 feet. Wherever possible, the valleys in Coorg are formed into flats and terraces for rice cultivation and high-lying lands are cultivated with coffee, orange, cardamom and pepper.

Coorg is a land-locked hilly country and the nearest coast according to the Survey of India maps is 21 miles from the western border of the district. The visitor will be delighted as much with the variety as with the beauty of the country. Nature displays her magnificence in all her variety. Standing on a bright November morning on the summit of the Brahmagiri near Talakaveri, one is filled with delight and admiration of the grand view that opens out. As far as the eye can reach to the north-west and south-east, it beholds ridge after ridge of grassy or forest-clad hills, now sloping down in gentle wavy lines, now bold and abrupt, raising their steep summits into the clear, blue air. Kuduremukha-betta, the far-seen landmark of the mariner, bursts into view from Kanara; the Bettadapur and Chamundi Hill in Mysore, the Wynad mountains of Malabar and Dodda-betta of the distant Nilgiris are clearly visible, and in the west at a distance of about 30 miles below the steep precipices of the Ghats, the coast-line of Cannanore and South Kanara, intersected by broad, bright, serpentine rivers and the dark blue sea beyond with its sailing craft fascinate the spectator.

Coorg is mostly covered by forest with, here and there, the clearing of a coffee plantation, a paddy field or the park-like open glades (Bane) with their beautiful green sward and varied foliage, lending a charming variety to the landscape.

Hills.

The district has a mountainous configuration which presents a grand panorama of verdant valleys, ravines, fast-flowing streams, lofty peaks and awe-inspiring spurs. From the table-land of old Mysore, the approach to Coorg is through the eastern spur where the headquarters town of Mercara is situated Towards the west, the summits of the Western Ghats attain great heights with precipitous drops. Many are the travellers and chroniclers who have sung in fervour of the grandeur of the ghats. The principal range from a point in the north of Coorg to a point in the south is described as the "western barrier". Viewed from any point from the Malabar coast, the spectacle of the great mountain barrier and the varied configuration of the ghats reaching great heights is enchanting. The main range of the Western Ghats extends to nearly sixty miles from Subramanya in the north-west to the Brahmagiris in the south. This range is the backbone of the western chain of hills. From this, several long and elevated ridges run from west to east, comprising the entire district of Coorg. There are also sub-divisions of the ghats towards the south. The lofty barrier range of the Western Ghats forms a continuous western frontier and the

Brahmagiri range affords a natural barrier between Coorg and the Malabar hill ranges of Wynad. From the eastern spur, the ascent towards the west is gradual.

The most conspicuous sub-divisions of the ghats in the south are the Brahmagiris or the Marenad ranges which form the southern boundary of the district separating it from Wynad. Their height averages some 4,500 feet above the sea level. In Coorg, the name Brahmagiri, is applied to the whole range separating Coorg from Wynad and there is also another peak near Bhagamandala known as Brahmagiri which is the source of the Cauvery. To the west of the Brahmagiri range, are the Hanuman betta, the Kadangamale and Perumal-male. The whole of Virajpet, popularly known as the lower ghat area, contains many spurs branching off in different directions. The eastern basin of the Cauvery river has on its sides any number of ridges in the confines of which are the Ambate-betta near Virajpet, the Bittangala, the Hattur Hill also called Kundada-betta, the Siddeshwara Hill and the Mankal betta. The valleys down the spurs, which subside into the undulating slopes of the eastern elevation, enclose the richest paddy fields in the district.

Between the Periambadi Pass, near the Kerala frontier, and the Todikana pass, close to the source of the Cauvery, the main chain of the Western Ghats extends in a north-westerly direction as a straight line having a length of 30 miles. The ghats here fall suddenly towards the west in a precipice. The ascent from the foot is steep and tortuous. It is in this range and behind the Nalknad Palace that the highest peak of the district, Tadiandamol (5,724 feet), is situated. The Tadiandamol is not altogether inaccessible; two thirds of it can be negotiated on horse-back. The topmost portion is rather difficult of ascent. But if one perseveres and climbs to the top, his exertions are amply rewarded and there from the giddy top of this peak he can look all around towards west and east and feast his eyes on the majestic grandeur of the slopes.

About six miles to the south-east of Tadiandamol rises the Somamale, the highest mountain in Kadiadnad hobli in the former Padinalknad taluk. It is sacred to Maletambiran (Tambiran, a Malayalam deity) and overlooks the Kodantora pass. Two miles to the north-east of Tadiandamol, there is another mountain giant, the Iggudappa-kundu (Iggu, a Malayalam god: appa, father; kundu, hill) near the Paditora (Pade, name of a village; tora, pass) and three miles further on, the Perur point and four miles still further, the Srimangala point. The last notable mountain in the same range is the Brahmagiri in Tavunad hobli in the former Padinalknad taluk with the source of the River Cauvery.

At an acute angle from this line, the main chain of the ghats continues in an easterly direction as the Bengunad range

till, nearing Mercara, it makes a sudden turn to the north-west and forms the Sampaje valley which leads by a gradual slope into the low country of Kanara. At the head of the valley and supported by a high ridge with steep abutments on its southern front, the Mercara table-land is situated. This ridge branches off in two directions, one towards the south-eastern elbow of the Cauvery, culminating in the peak of Nurokal-betta, and the other, the Horur-branch, due east in a zigzag line towards Kushalnagar with several rugged hills, the most remarkable of which is Kallurubetta clothed with teak forest. The Nurokal and Bengunad ranges are the lateral formations or spurs extending from the Western Ghats. Also, the confines of the hilly tract form the water-shed of the upper basin of the River Cauvery. This basin which lies between Mercara and Nalknad is 15 miles broad.

From the main chain of the ghats and the Bengunad range, innumerable ridges jut out on either side. These are diminutive when compared with the parent stock; and they decrease in height as they recede, but have almost everywhere narrow summits and steep declivities.

The table-land of Mercara maintains throughout an average altitude of 3,500 feet above the sea, and may be said to extend as far as Somwarpet, a distance of 20 miles, but on the east it slopes down to the Cauvery which near Kushalnagar is at an elevation of 2,720 feet above the sea. This plateau, crossed in all directions by minor hills and ridges, is bounded on the west by the continuation of the ghats which culminate near the Bisle pass in the Subrahmanya or Pushpagiri hill, which according to Rev. G. Richter (Manual of Coorg), is 5,548 feet above the sea level. But Lewis Rice puts the height of this hill at 5,626 feet. According to the Survey of India, the height is 5,620 feet. This is a remarkable two-pointed hill of precipitous height and peculiar shape, and resembles, as seen from Mercara, a gigantic bullock hump. The ascent, which on account of the precipices of the southern and western face of the hill, can only be effected by a circuitous route, is more difficult than that of Tadiandamol. Starting from Bhagati, at the base of the Pushpagiri, it is about six miles walking, the ascent taking a good walker two hours and 40 minutes and the descent to Hiridigadde of the village, Bidehalli, two hours. A dense jungle, dear to wild elephants, has to be penetrated, and the ascent is severe; but the summit commands an extensive prospect over Coorg, Kanara and Mysore. There are on this hill numerous Hindu memorials in the shape of stone mounds. Within an enclosure, there are two rude stone structures, with the customary imprint of two feet (*pada*) of celestial origin.

Amongst the many ridges that branch off from the Subrahmanya range of the ghats, the most remarkable is that

which attains its greatest height in Kotebetta, about nine miles north of Mercara. Its elevation is over 5,000 feet, and its base covers a very large extent of country. Its summit is divided into two peaks, one rather pointed and the other flat, while its sides are clothed with forest, and innumerable cultivated valleys occupy the recesses. Close to the apex, there are two reservoirs of water. Near the summit on a spacious platform is a small temple of rough granite slabs dedicated to Shiva This hill, as well as the Nurokalbetta, offer, on account of their height and central position, the finest general view of Coorg.

The Shanthalli Hill running parallel to Kotebetta has near it a bluff-like ridge with a precipitous declivity on its western side. This is the Mukri-betta. There is another range extending from the nothern boundary of Coorg down to the Cauvery river which is called the Yelusavira hills having the Malambi and Kamangala peaks. The Malambi has a conical shape and reaches a height of 4,488 feet. In general, the chain is unequal in its elevation and irregular in its direction with a curvature at the head of the Todikana Ghat.

The whole of the western portion of Coorg is an unbroken chain, presenting itself, as a wall, ever protecting this little district. From the foothills in Kerala, the Coorg mountain system appears as a formidable wall, with lofty peaks here and there.

Rivers.

The configuration of the district is such that the main drainage is in an easterly direction towards the Bay of Bengal, but there are a few mountain torrents of the western declivities of the ghats which flow westward. The Coorg rivers are not noted either for their width or depth but the water supply is everywhere abundant throughout the year. As the sources of the rivers are high up in the mountains and their courses are over steep declivities, they flow with great rapidity, generally over rocky beds. The height of their banks, the rocky beds and the unevenness of the country render them wholly unsuited for navigation of any kind though a few of them allow artificial irrigation.

The largest river is the Cauvery, which with its principal tributaries, the Hemavathi, Lakshmanathirtha, Kakkabe and Harangi or Suvarnavathi, flows in an easterly direction and the Barapole is the only river worthy of the name, which flows towards the west. Besides these, there are many minor streams whose general characteristics are the same and vary only in size depending upon the length of their course. They swell during the rainyseason in the early part of June and flow with violent and boisterous rapidity till October, when, after the rains, they gradually subside to their normal dimensions.

The chief river in Coorg, both in size and in importance, is the Cauvery which rises on the Brahmagiri at a place called Talakaveri, where the Western Ghats form a sharp angle with the Bengunad range. The original name of the river 'Kaveri' has been anglicised into 'Cauvery'. The Kannike, another stream, rises nearby and after a short run joins the Cauvery at the foot of the hill near the village of Bhagamandala. The Cauvery is reputed to be one of the seven sacred rivers or *Saptha Sindus* of the Hindu scriptures and the devout believe that a bath in it would help wash off their sins. Though the entire length of the river, from its source in Coorg to its mouth in Thanjavur District in Madras State where it falls into the Bay of Bengal, is considered holy, a bath at its source at Talakaveri or at its confluence with Kannike near Bhagamandala is considered very sacred. It is said that there is another invisible river, Sujyothi, which joins the Cauvery at Bhagamandala. This may, perhaps, be the southern version of the belief held in North India that at Prayag (Allahabad), where the Yamuna joins the Ganges, there is another river, Saraswathi, which also joins them unseen. It is believed that even the river Ganga (Ganges) resorts underground to the Cauvery once a year in Tulamasa, *i.e.*, October-November, to wash herself free of the pollution contracted by her from the crowds of sinners who bathe in her waters. There are temples both on the top and at the foot of the hill which are visited every year by thousands of pilgrims from the adjoining areas.

Cauvery.

As is the case of every holy place or river in India, there are several legends connected with the origin of the river Cauvery. Chapters 11 to 14 of the Skanda or Kartikeya purana known as the Kaveri purana describe the sacred river from its source to its union with the sea and enumerate the many holy bathing places and temples on its banks.

Its mythological origin.

It is said that a certain prince, Chandra Varma, in the course of his pilgrimage, came to Brahmagiri and finding the place picturesque and very calm, decided to stay there and devote himself to the worship of the Goddess Parvathi. Pleased with his worship, the Goddess appeared before him and gave him a sword, which would give him victory, a white horse which would carry him at high speed and also an army with which he could conquer the country. She also promised to appear in due course in the form of a river and to make the country fertile.

As the result of the churning of the ocean by the Devas (Gods) and Asuras (Rakshasas), Amrita or the nectar of immortality was obtained from the sea but the Asuras seized it from the Devas. Fearing the consequences, Lord Vishnu created Mohini and sent her to restore the Amrita to the Devas and Goddess Lakshmi also at the same time sent forth Lopamudra (a form of Parvathi) to assist Mohini. After the Amrita was

restored to the Devas, Mohini retired to Brahmagiri and was changed into a rocky cave and Lopamudre was given to Brahma who brought her up as his daughter.

Kavera Muni, a great sage, selected Brahmagiri in Coorg as a place suitable for meditation and there prayed to Lord Brahma for children. Brahma gave him Lopamudre for a daughter and thereafter she came to be known as Kaveri after the name of her new father, Kavera Muni. She wanted to obtain heavenly happiness for her father and from the heights of Brahmagiri prayed to Brahma to give her the miraculous power, when she turned into a river, of absolving all those who bathed in her holy waters of the sins committed by them and this boon was readily granted to her by Brahma.

Another sage, Agastya, who happened to see her while she was absorbed in her devotions, asked her to become his wife. She could not refuse his request though she was more bent upon fulfilling her desire of becoming a river and pouring her blessings on the people and agreed to live with him on condition that if at any time she should be left alone without him, she would be at liberty to forsake him. Agastya agreed to this condition and married her. One day, he left her near his own holy tank guarded by his disciples for taking his bath in a nearby river. Thus deserted by Agastya against his promise, she plunged into the holy tank and flowed from it as a river. When the disciples tried to stay her course, she went underground and appeared again at Bhaganda Kshetra and flowed on towards Valambari.

Regarding the origin of the river Cauvery, an account which differs slightly from the above is published in Volume IV of "Immortal India" by Shri J. H. Dave and it is reproduced here with the kind permission of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bombay :—

"Several legends are current about Kaveri. They are mainly recorded in the Agneya and Skanda Puranas. Agneya Purana records that in ancient times there was a king by name Kavera who performed severe penance. He propitiated Brahma, who told him that as King Kavera had to wait for some time to get liberated, he should better look after and keep as his ward Vishnu-Maya, the daughter of Brahma. The King did so. Vishnu Maya grew up at the house of the King and being a part incarnation of Vishnu, she also went to the Himalayas to perform penance. In the meantime, King Kavera was liberated as promised by Brahma. Vishnu-Maya propitiated Vishnu who asked her to assume two forms for the benefit of the people. In one form she was to become a river starting from the Sahya mountain. As she was the daughter of King Kavera, the river was called Kaveri. In her other form, this Vishnu-Maya was to become Lopamudra, the wife of Sage Agastya. At this time,

Agastya also was performing penance on the Himalayas. He was asked by Brahma to contact and get married to Lopamudra. Agastya came down to Vishnu-Maya who had assumed the form of Lopamudra and married her. After some time, Agastya came to know that there was scarcity of water in the south. So he asked Lopamudra to enter into his *kamandalu*, which she did, and he carried her to the south on the Sahyadri. On this portion of the mount, even Brahma used to perform penance; therefore the hill was known as Brahmagiri. At this place Vishnu had assumed the form of an *Amalaka* tree and Brahma had brought in his Shankha water from Kailasa from the Vraja river to worship Vishnu in his form of the Amalaka tree. This pure water from Kailasa was poured out by Brahma. At this time Agastya had placed his kamandalu on a big slab of stone and had gone for his bath As God would have it, there were stormy winds, the *kamandalu* was overturned, and Vishnu-Maya, Lopamudra or Kaveri came out of it. Her waters mixed with the waters of Vraja brought by Brahma in his Shankha from Kailasa, and Kaveri thus became extremely holy. According to the version of Skanda purana, the Vindhya mount was competing with the sun. He grew taller and taller and thereby blocked the light and stood in the way of the sun and the stars. Ultimately Sage Agastya was requested to control Vindhya. Agastya agreed to do this and propitiated God Sankara. As desired by Agastya, God Sankara gave him the necessary power and also a continuous stream of water so that Agastya could perform his penance at any place. It is said that originally river Kaveri was flowing on the Kailasa mount but as ordered by God Siva, she entered the *kamandalu* of Agastya. Agastya came south from the Himalayas. On the way, Vindhya lay prostrated before this celebrated sage. The sage told him that as he wanted to go to the South with ease, Vindhya should not get up till Agastya came back. Vindhya obeyed and it is said that he is still lying low expecting Agastya to come back. Agastya came to the Sahya mountain and started performing penance. At that time one Asura named Surapadma had stopped all rains by his powers. Indra was worried and he requested Lord Ganesha to somehow see that there was plenty of water in the South. Ganesha assumed the form of a crow and over-turned the *kamandalu* of Agastya on the Sahya mountain and thus Kaveri started flowing.

On account of these legends, the source of Kaveri is also called Amalakatirtha or Sankhatirtha, because the waters of Kaveri mixed with those of Vraja coming out of the Sankha of Brahma when Brahma poured out water to worship Vishnu in the form of the Amalaka tree".

There are quite a few other legends about this very sacred river of the south, but suffice it to say that most of them are apocryphal. as is to be expected.

Its course.

The course of this river through Coorg is very tortuous, but below Bhagamandala, its current, with the exception of a few localities where it traverses beds of granite rock, is generally tranquil. Its banks which are high and steep are usually formed of rich clay or mud and covered with luxuriant tropical vegetation. The bed over which it flows differs in various places, being alternately sandy, pebbly or rocky, but the latter feature is predominant. In the dry season, it is fordable at almost all points, but there is always a good flow of water, in view of the vicinity of its source. During the monsoon, it rises to an impetuous torrent whose mud-stained waters roll with thundering velocity through its wide channel, floating down shrubs and trees from its crumbling banks and over-flowing for a few days the adjoining country. During these freshes, the level of the river rises steeply near Kushalnagar, where it is spanned by a good bridge, 315 feet in length.

The river takes a sudden turn to the north near Siddapur and flows for 25 miles along the eastern frontier of the district, being swollen in its course by several large tributaries. From the eminence of Tadiandamol, it receives the Kakkabe river. In Virajpetnad, it is joined by the Kadanur river; and in Yedenalknad by the Kummahole. The length of the river from its source to the point where it leaves the district is about fifty miles.

Hemavathi.

The other important rivers of the district which fall into the Cauvery beyond the district are the Hemavathi and the Lakshmanathirtha. The former rises near the Bhadra river in Chikmagalur district and after passing Manjarabad, it forms for a few miles the northern boundary of Coorg and joins the Cauvery in the Krishnarajanagar taluk of Mysore District near the village of Tippur.

Lakshmana-thirtha.

The Lakshmanathirtha with its tributaries, the Ramathirtha and Kerehole, drains nearly the whole of the south-eastern part of Virajpet taluk. It rises in the Munikadu forest on the plateau of Devasibetta in the Brahmagiris, and in its descent over an almost perpendicular mountain wall forms a celebrated cataract, which has been invested with sin-cleansing virtue, and is consequently visited at the Irpu jatre by thousands of devotees. The banks of this river, like those of the Cauvery, are of clay or mud, steep, with a sandy bottom and shaded by dense forest or bamboo clumps.

Streams.

The Muttaremutta collects the waters of the southern slope of the Mercara ridge, and the Chikka-hole those of the valley near Suntikoppa and Chettalli villages. The Harangi or Suvarnavathi, with the Kakke-hole from Somwarpet, the Choran hole from Shanthalli, the Mattapur and Hatti-hole from Kote-betta, drain the northern plateau of Coorg, and add an immense

bulk of water to the Cauvery. Almost every one of these mountain streams forms, in its descent over rocky beds, cascades of great beauty. One near Mercara, the Abbi Fall, is much admired and frequently visited by picnic parties.

Barapole.

The most important of the rivers that flow to the west is the Barapole. It rises with the Lakshmanathirtha and Papanashini on the same plateau of the Brahmagiri hills and flows for several miles in almost a straight line, through a deep mountain gorge, where it is joined by a tributary that falls over a perpendicular rock of great height, and forms a beautiful cascade. Near the Kerala frontier, the Barapole leaps into a deep chasm, and forms a water-fall that, with the wild forest scenery around, is remarkably picturesque. Then, for two miles, this river runs along the Coorg frontier, up to the point where the Kalla-hole, descending through the Heggala pass, unites with it, and the combined stream enters Malabar and empties near Chirakal into the sea. The Barapole receives the rainfall of about 192 square miles, and is navigable from the sea to within 16 miles of the foot of the ghats. On the road to Cannanore, it is spanned by several bridges.

Najikal.

The next stream of importance that flows west is the Najikal, which drains the Sampaje valley, and follows the main road as far as Sulya, when it turns to the west, receives a tributary that originates on the western slopes of the Todikana pass and Talakaveri, and falls under the name of Basavani river into the sea near Kasargod.

Kumaradhari

The Kumaradhari rises near the Subrahmanya Hill and carries off but little of the Coorg waters. For some distance it forms the northern boundary along the Bisle pass. A number of tributaries from north and south swell its waters, the largest of them being the Netravati which joins it near the village of Uppinangadi and thenceforth gives its own name to the rest of its course and meets the sea near Mangalore. The Netravati is of considerable commercial value. Boats of large size are safely carried from Mangalore as far as Bantwal and Panemangalore and smaller craft can proceed even beyond Uppinangadi.

Lakes, Tanks Wells.

Throughout Coorg, there is not a lake or tank of any size worth mentioning. Only in Virajpet taluk are there a few natural reservoirs, called Kolli, enclosed by belts of small trees and containing water all the year round. A tank, three miles north of Somwarpet, is notable for its picturesque scenery. The stone inscription on the western outlet of the tank reads : "The King Andany has ordered this tank to be built on Tuesday, the tenth day of the month of Phalguna in the year Parthiva. This was written by Venkadasya Mallia Bomarasia at the time of Basawalinga Deva Raja Vodea". There is also a legend connected with

this tank. A merchant, Malla Shetti of Yelusaviraseeme, built this tank. But no water was forthcoming. Animal sacrifices were offered at the suggestion of the tank-diggers, but still there was no water. Goddess Ganga appeared in his dream and demanded his little finger. He was not willing to make this sacrifice and instead offered the life of his daughter-in-law, Akkony, whose husband was away at that time. As she stepped into the tank, Goddess Ganga made her appearance in the rushing water and Akkony disappeared in the rising water. She appeared in a dream to her husband and told him what had happened. He returned home, killed his parents and threw himself into the tank with his child in his arms.

Besides the small public tanks, there are only private wells that everywhere yield, if dug deep enough, sweet and clear water.

There are a number of springs in all valleys which irrigate a considerable acreage in Coorg. However, the flow will be almost negligible from November to June.

Geology.

Systematic geological mapping and mineral survey of the district as a unit have not so far been conducted and no account of the geology has been published so far. But selected portions of the area have been mapped during recent years and there are a few unpublished reports by the officers of the Geological Survey of India. The information in respect of the recent surveys conducted in the district has been incorporated suitably in this section.

Sequence of rock formations.

The various rock formations excepting soils, alluvium and laterite, coming under Recent and Sub-recent deposits, occurring in the area, belong to the most ancient Archaean system. The sequence of the geological formations occurring in the district is as follows :—

Recent and Sub-recent.	Soils, alluvium and laterite
Intrusives ..	Dolerite dykes Quartz Veins and Pegmatites Charnockites Granites and granitic gneisses
Dharwars ..	Garnetiferous biotite Sillimanite gneisses Garnetiferous kyanite gneisses Schists and amphibolites, etc.

Dharwars.

These consist of the older metamorphic rocks and they are represented by thinly foliated garnetiferous kyanite-mica schist .

bands and lenticles of amphibolites, hornblende schists and quartz haematite schists. The strike varies from N.W.—S.E. to N.N.W. —S.S.E. with dip S.W.

Garnetiferous-biotite-sillimanite gneisses and garnetiferous kyanite gneisses form the major rock formations in the area. They are coarse to medium-grained and light in colour. The strike of the rock formations is N.W.-S.E. (almost parallel to the direction of the Western Ghats) and the dip ranges from 60° to 70° south-west. The gneisses are composed of quartz, feldspar, biotite, hornblende and kyanite or sillimanite with some other accessory minerals, such as apatite, magnetite, sphene and garnet.

Granites and Granitic Gneisses.

The granites and granitic gneisses occur over extensive areas striking in a N.W.—S.E. direction with 50° to 60° dip south-west. The granites are exposed as massive and rounded boulders. They are coarse to medium-grained, grey to pink, and consist chiefly of quartz, feldspar and biotite with accessory minerals. The granitic gneisses occur intermixed with granites and show at places needles of sillimanite in the biotite-rich zones.

Charnockites.

Charnockites occur flanking the Dharwars on both sides trending in N.N.W.-S.S.E. to N.W.-S.E. directions with dip varying from 50° to 80° south-west. They are exposed prominently to the S.S.W. of Virajpet, S.W. of Napoklu, around Votekolli and in the Harangi and Cauvery river basins. They are mostly dark-coloured, coarse-grained and compact; acidic to basic in composition with variations to intermediate types. They show rough banding on the weathered surfaces. They are almost entirely made up of feldspar, hypersthene, hornblende, and often diopside with accessory minerals like apatite, garnet and magnetite.

Quartz Veins and Pegmatites.

The granitic area is traversed by numerous thin veins of quartz and pegmatites, particularly along the eastern and southern margins of Coorg district. The pegmatite veins are composed essentially of quartz and feldspar with poor concentrations of mica and other accessories.

Dolerite dykes.

Dolerite dykes occur as detached boulders intruding the granites at places. They are hard and compact and show typical ophitic texture under the microscope with plates of augite, twinned feldspar laths and other minor accessories.

Recent and Sub-recent Deposits.

The flat portions of the district are covered by a thick mantle of soil, while the elevated portions are capped with laterite. The river sections contain varying proportion of sand, silt and gravel of all sizes and varieties.

Mineral deposits.

Coorg district should be considered as poor in economic mineral deposits, though there are some occurrences of mica, kyanite, iron ore and clay of minor importance. However, the information on the occurrence of minerals in the district is furnished below.

Mica.

The mica, though limited in extent and distribution, occurs at (1) about half a mile south-east of Kushalnagar, (2) about two miles west of Mercara, and (3) near Marenad and Parakatageri in Srimangalanad. Mica occurs sporadically in pegmatitic veins in small books of four by two inches to two by one inch. It is heavily stained and cracked.

Kyanite.

Kyanite, in the form of small knots, lenticles and concentrations occurs in the gneiss, (1) on the eastern slopes and western flanks of the mound near Katakeri village, about three miles S.S.W. of Mercara, (2) along the ridges and hill tops about a mile west of the Mercara-Siddapur Road, (3) on the tops of the hillocks to the S.E. of Siddapur, and (4) on the eastern flanks of the hill about two miles N.W. of Siddapur.

Building and Road Materials.

The granites, gneisses and charnockites form excellent material for building purposes and for use as road ballast. The pink porphyritic granites are good for building and decorative purposes, after polishing.

Forests.

The area of Reserve forests in Coorg district is 3,30,240 acres. This does not include the area under Paisaries. Devarakadus, Uruduves and privately owned lands under the unredeemed and redeemed tenures.

Reserved forests are those directly under the management of the Forest Department.

Paisaries are the village forests managed by the Revenue Department. In old Mysore, these are called district forests.

Devarakadus are forests under the dual management of the Forest and Revenue Departments. They are sacred forests usually assigned to some particular deity or temple. The right to take firewood for temple worship, materials for constructing pandals and (with special permission) timber for repairing the temple, are allowed to the temple authorities and servants, while the villagers generally have the rights of way and water, of grazing and of hunting, especially during the Keil Muhurta and Huttari festivals.

Uruduves are Government lands under the management of the Revenue Department. In the north-eastern part of Coorg, where no *banes* were allotted, the raiyats are allowed to graze their

cattle in and take firewood and timber for agricultural purposes from communal lands which are known as Uruduves or village forests.

Redeemed lands are those in the possession of private individuals who have paid to Government both land value and timber value at the time of assignment.

Unredeemed lands are also those in the possession of private individuals but who have not paid to Government the value for timber in the lands and the Government has the right to the timber growth in the land.

Flora.

The flora of Coorg is similar to that of other areas in Southern India. Looking upon Coorg with the eye of the forester, rather than that of the general botanist, the most superficial survey will not fail to discover invaluable treasures of timber trees and their produce, scattered all over the district. There are two distinct tracts in the district with trees peculiar to them. The forests in Coorg are called by the people as Male-kadu or hill forests and Kanive-kadu or hillock jungles. Botanically, they can be called as evergreen and deciduous forests, the former clothing the high ghats and the latter the eastern hill tracts.

The principal timber species found in the evergreen forests of Coorg are the Agil (Dysoxylum malabaricum), Aini, Heb-halsu (Artocarpus hirsuta), Krupu, Kiral boghi (Hopea parviflora), Kalpaini (Dipterocarpus indicus), Chonapaini, Yenne-mara (Hardwickia pinnata), Velthapaini, Dupa (Vateria indica), Pali (Palaquium ellipticum), Poon, Kuve (Calophyllum tomentosum), Ebony (Diospyros ebenum), Nega, Gandagarige (Cedrela toona), Irulu (Xylia xylocarpa), Nandi (Lagerstroemia lanceolata), Honne (Pterocarpus marsupium), Teak (Tectona grandis), Biti (Dalbergia latifolia), Jack (Artocarpus integrifolia), Atha, Naga Sampage (Mesua ferrea), Mango (Mangifera indica), Belangi (Acrocarpus fraxinifolius), Paudapaini, Halmaddi (Canarium strictum), Mathi (Terminalia tomentosa), Uluve, Huluve (Terminalia paniculata), Nerale (Eugenia jambolana), Buruga (Bombax malabaricum), Pale, Jantala (Alstonia scholaris), Neerventeak, Challa (Lagerstrœmia Flos-Reginæ), Arsinatega (Adina cordifolia), Chattuvamara (Evodia roxburghiana) and Sampige (Michelia champaca).

Species of secondary importance found in this region are the Perumara, Kat-Kumbala (Trewia nudiflora), Palmani (Lophopetalum wightianum), Karpamara, Lavangapattemara (Cinnamomum zeylanicum), Gerumara (Holigarna species), Cheeni (Tetrameles nudiflora), Kadapara (Ficus nervosa), Maleambatte, Amate (Spondias mangifera), Kotta (Sterculia alata), Choremara (Myristica species), Bage (Albizzia species), Kunhiwage (Albizzia

species), Kariagil (Vepcria billocularia), Kakechapaya (Polythia fragrans), Mullilam, Jimmi-mara (Chunde), (Zanthoxylon Rhetsa), Kalbenteak, Tottila (Aglaia Roxburghiana), Aranji, Jajhugri (Antiaris toxicaria), Thari (Terminalia belerica), Bollurupu (Eugenia gardneri), Neeli (Bischofia javanica), Bangana (Caralia integarrima), Palapannumara (Chrysophyllum roxburghii), IbrahimDunne (Dillenia pentagyna), Kungepannumara (Elæocarpus tuberculatus), Panapuli (Garcina gambogii), Karthachoote (Diospyres nilagirica), Yeeyamara (Strombosia ceylanica), Kulumavu (Machilus macrantha), Adakapaini (Vatica roxburghiana), Kankarakaimara (Strychnas nuxvocia), Nai irupu (Hopea wightiana) and Koomathi (Nephelium longana).

The species commonly found in the eastern forests are the *Adale (Olea dieica), Alale (Terminalia chebula), Ambatte (Spondias acuminata), Aralimara (Ficus religiosa), Arasinatega (Adina cordifolia), Asargane (Dalbergia paniculata), Bage (Albizza lebbek), Basri (Ficus species), Basavanapada (Bauhinia species), Bende (Kyadia calycina), Bilwara (Alizzin odoratissima)*, Biti (Dalbergia latifolia), Burga (Bombax malabaricum), Chennangi (Lagerstroemia parviflora), Dindiga (Anogeissus latifolia), Doddi (Hymenodictyon excelsum), Srigandha (Santalum album), Ganteınara (Scheebora swietenioides), Garukulu (Ciltis austrialis), Geru (Semecarpus Anacardium), Udi, Godda (Odina wodier), Gojimara (Bridelia retusa), Halemara (Wrightia tinctoria), Hebbevu *(Milia dubia), Honne (Pterocarpus marsupium), Hulichellu (Mallotus philippinensis)*, Ippe (Bassia longifolia), Irupu, Kiral bhogi (Hopea parviflora), Jagalaganti (Diospyros montana), Jala (Shorea laccifera), Kadiala (Stephegyne parvifolia), Kadutega (Dillenia pentagyna), Kakke (Cassia fistula), Karadi, Dal-mara (Chickrassia tabularis), Kilungi (Casearia tomentosa), Tigdu (Oroxylum indicum), Kuli (Gmelina arborea), Kulumavu, Chittutandrimara (Machilus macarantha), Malali, Padri (Stereospermum chelonoides), Matti (Terminalia tomentosa), Mavu (Mangifera indica), Mukurthi (Elæodendron giaucum), Murkalu (Buchanania latifolia), Nandi (Lagerstroemia lanceolata), Nasremara (Saccopetalum tomentosum), Navladi (Vitex altissima), Neeli, Gobranairul (Bischofia javanica), Neernokki, Niranji (Salix tetrasperma), Nelli (Phyllanthus emblica), Nelagodda (Garuga pinnata), Nerale (Eugenia jambolana), Noga (Cedrela toona), Padri (Stereospermum suaveolens). Sagade (Scheleichera trijuga), Sampige (Michelia champaca), Sollemara (Cordia myxa), Tega (Tectona grandis), Thaedali (Linociera malabarica), Thadasalu (Grewia tiliæfolia), Tari (Terminalia belerica), Thupru (Disphrose tomentosa), Udi, Konanakombu-mara (Stereospermum xylocarpum), and Huluve (Terminalia paniculata).

There are large clumps of bamboos in the eastern part of Coorg. Minor forest produce of the district consists of tamarind,

myrobalam, soapnut, tanning barks, horns, bees wax, honey, gums, honge seeds, lichens and nux-vomica.

The picturesque scenery which the dense forests and the bamboo clusters once presented have somewhat been marred on account of the indiscriminate felling of the trees and bamboos. The Coorg Forest Department which was organised about the year 1865 and designated as the "Forest Conservancy Department" took up the extraction of all saleable trees of superior species in accessible localities so as to make as much revenue as possible. However, the most interior portions of the forests of the Nalkeri Reserve were preserved. The work of forest preservation was started in the district in 1871 and the Forest Rules were introduced. The issue of licences to exploit timber which was in vogue from the time of the Coorg Rajas was stopped. In order to prevent indiscriminate felling of timber in the forests, a working plan of selection-*cum*-improvement fellings was first prepared in 1886. Only good saleable timbers were cut but no attention was paid for the future crop. Dissatisfied with this system and its injurious results, Mr. Tireman prepared a new working plan in 1912, later modified by Mr. Brand in 1925, according to which felling was followed by artificial regeneration with teak. Another working plan which was a fifteen-year plan drawn up by Mr. Rangaswamy was introduced in 1940. The main object of all these plans was to preserve the forest wealth and to prevent indiscriminate felling and to raise plantations with valuable species in rotation in the area cleared by the felling of the trees. After the introduction of the working plan, the economic position of the district improved and the forest revenue of the district has been improving steadily. The forest revenue during the period 1958 to 1961 is given below:—

Year		*Revenue from timber.*	*Total Revenue*
		Rs.	Rs.
1958-59	..	62,11,795	76,74,713
1959-60	..	67,15,097	78,02,005
1960-61	..	77,42,932	94,80,122

Rosewood of a fine quality is being exported from this district to Italy and other European countries, while soft wood is sent to the plywood factories at Hunsur, Cochin and Calicut and to the match factory at Madras.

Fauna.

Among the gifts of nature, fauna occupies a unique position. The beasts and the birds of the jungle were once looked upon by many as a mere source of food. With the progress of civilization and the development of finer instincts, man began to look upon the grandeur of nature as a source of inspiration and pleasure.

He did not look upon the wild animals merely as a source of meat but as something having an æsthetic value. Every species in nature has its own role to play, which may not be quite obvious to the casual observer. The fauna differs from region to region depending upon location and climatic condition. The fauna of Coorg district is not very different from that of the adjoining districts but, on account of the shelter the hills and thick jungles of Coorg offer and the availability of plenty of drinking water, their number in the district is larger.

The whole of Coorg is rich in fauna because of the dense forests and evergreen valleys. It is rather peculiar that in Coorg beasts of prey wander away to adjoining tracts during heavy monsoons. Except small animals, the bigger type do not stay in the forests from June to September. The big game-hunter looks to the day when the south-west monsoon gets terminated and then he has a spectacle of variegated faunistic grandeur in all the forest regions. The bigger beasts of prey are found in the regions where there are streams, and the topography is not too steep or precipitous as in the case of the extreme west. The northern, eastern and southern regions are full of all kinds of animals.

There are three kinds of monkeys in the district, the black, the grey and the brown. The black monkey is of small size and has greyish whiskers, chest and belly. It is found in the ghat forests. The grey or Hanuman monkey is found in open country as well as in the neighbourhood of dwellings. It is larger than the black monkey in size with a long tail and its face is bare and rather reddish. The brown monkey, also found in the ghat forests, has a long tail and a light grey face and chest. When fully grown, it is about two feet high in a sitting posture.

Among the canine family in Coorg, the wild dog, locally called Kennai, is prominent. Outwardly, there is not much difference between this and the wolf. Those who are particularly interested in big game consider the wild dog as possessing remarkable strength. It is reddish brown in colour and when it barks it closely imitates the pariah dog. The wild dog does not go about singly. Packs of ten to twenty roam about the forest and are a terror to all beasts in the forests including the tiger. Their mode of attack is at once ferocious and final. They seize the prey from behind or in front and gouge the eyes of the enemy. Afterwards they suck the blood till the enemy is annihilated.

The mongoose (Viverra Mung) lives mostly in agricultural fields, running from one plot to another. This is a slender, elongated species, a friend of the poultry in the homesteads of agriculturists. The mongoose is known to destroy snakes.

Being a wild forest region, mice and rats are plentiful in Coorg. Besides the domestic rodents, there are many field rodents of which the musk rat is familiar. This rodent gives a piercing shriek when it meets adversaries. The bamboo rat is a nuisance to coffee plantations. When it wants food, the bamboo rat attacks the coffee shrub, eating the tender shoots. The field rat of a brownish colour is a pest to the paddy fields. It searches after granaries and carries away what it can get.

The bandicoot (Heggana) is known for its burrowing habits and lives near houses where it causes destruction.

Among squirrels, there are some well-known species. The Tamias Striatus is quite common in the warmer regions in the east of Coorg. This is a pretty, tiny creature with a fine tail. The grey squirrel is larger than the Tamias Striatus and lives on trees. The red squirrel is a lively creature known for its wild habitation. The Kurubas catch these creatures in plenty. The grey flying squirrel or flying cat is yet another species. Its home is in the holes of trees and it lives entirely on fruit. Though it cannot actually fly, it takes leaps. The common hare (Mola) is found all over. Some classes eat its flesh with relish.

There are tortoises belonging to the reptile class found mostly in paddy fields and small tanks. The shell is long and broad but of a bony nature. The common lizards, blood-suckers and chameleons are found all over. Crocodiles (Mosale) are sometimes seen in the river Cauvery, when it forms itself into pools.

It is natural to expect that in a district like Coorg, full of forests and hills, mortality from reptiles and wild animals would be heavy but it is surprisingly low. According to police reports, deaths due to wild beasts were only two in 1959, none in 1960 one in 1961, three in 1962 and two in 1963 and no case of snake-bite was reported in any of these years, though wild animals and poisonous snakes are found in large numbers in the Coorg forests. Perhaps, this is due to the precautionary measures taken by the people when frequenting forests.

Of the bigger beasts of prey, the tiger is found in all the jungles of Coorg. The number of these animals is not known but forest experts say that there are many in the spurs of the Western Ghats and in the vicinity of villages. It is a balance of nature that where there is a conglomeration of spotted deer, there the tigers have an assured habitation. When they do not find the spotted deer, they migrate to villages where they can kill cattle. The shooting of tigers is not commonly allowed, except when they become dangerous to human beings, or if they ravage the country-side. Special licences are issued in such cases to shoot tigers. In the old days when the area was under the sway of the

Rajas, tiger hunts were an annual event. Linga Raja, it is told, killed in one hunt as many tigers as the number of days in the year. It may be surmised from this that tigers were numerous in the old days. But their number was depleted as years went by because of the growth of towns and villages. The animals have migrated to denser jungle areas. The height of a tiger in Coorg varies from three to four feet and its length from six to nine feet. The lesser beast of prey coming under the tiger class is the panther (Kiruba) which is found all over Coorg. The panther is a wily animal, and attacks only at night. It is two and a half to three feet in height and has a length of four feet. The panther belongs to the leopard species but is smaller in size.

The tiger-cat (Huli-bekku) is yet another animal found in the vicinity of villages. This animal is bigger than the ordinary cat and because of the similarity of spots, it is often mistaken for tiger.

Wild boars (Kadu-handi) are found in all the jungles of Coorg and go about damaging paddy fields. They are driven out by buck shots or through shouted sounds.

The black bears (Karadi) are not many in number but are noticed in the vicinity of the Pushpagiri hills. The hyena (Katte-Kiruba) is not found in the district. There are porcupines (Mullu - handi) in the jungles.

The civet cat (Punugu-bekku) is also found in Coorg.

Among the varieties of bats, the flying bat (Bavutiga) and the wild bat are common all over.

Of the non-carnivorous type, the elephant is found in Nagarhole and Tithimathi forest ranges and on the borders of Wynad. In the North Coorg area, the elephants are found near about the Kushalnagar forest range and also near Somwarpet. The elephants in Coorg roam about the area only in summer and, with the advent of the monsoon, they go away to the Kakankote and Biligirirangan ranges. They live in a wild state and roam about in bamboo jungles. According to the Elephant Shooting Rules in force, no elephant should be shot except with a special licence obtained from Government. Preservation of wild elephants is also in vogue in the district as per the Elephant Preservation Act, 1879.

The bison, called familiarly Kati in the Kannada language, is common in reserve forests throughout the year. It is also found in the denser jungles. The bison is a ferocious animal when alarmed or when attacked.

Sambur, spotted deer and barking deer are very common in the forests of Coorg. The barking deer has small spots all over the body. The mouse-deer are also found and these look like dogs.

In the reptile class, the most common is the cobra. In the dense jungles, the king cobra is also found. The krait and the python exist all over the forest area.

In the field of ornithology, Coorg is unsurpassed. After the monsoon, the birds dressed in fine plumage arrive in their thousands. Among the birds of prey are the soaring vultures and the eagles which are found in the jungles. The kite is a common bird in Coorg. The perchers prey upon insects. The Malabar trogon with its splendid plumage is lovely to look at. It is commonly seen near about coffee estates. The king-fishers are another variety seen all over. Parrots are numerous, especially in the bamboo jungles. They are remarkable for their beautiful colours. The wood-peckers are also common. The cuckoo family is represented by the black cuckoo and the red-winged crested cuckoo. The Niligiri black-bird is called in Coorg as Bhima-raja or the Coorg nightingale. The bulbul is found throughout the year. The common crow is not so common in Coorg as in other parts. Mynahs are to be found all over the area as also any number of larks. Peacocks are found in the bamboo jungles.

With the close of the rainy season, the insect world dominates the sunny period. The beetles are in variety everywhere. These beetles appear in swarms but they are not migratory The honey-bee is a welcome asset in Coorg as it gives honey and a thriving industry has been started. Wasps and hornets are a menace in forests. The butter-flies and moths present a splendid spectacle all over Coorg. Spiders are common in the jungles. Scorpions of the greenish black variety are met with in damp areas. There are several kinds of crabs. The leeches, called jigini, are active during the monsoon months and those who frequent the forests know their nuisance value.

Shooting Blocks.

The forests in Coorg are, for purposes of shooting, divided into nine blocks; they are (1) Malambi Reserved Forest Block, including the Reserved forest of Kattepura and Gangawara, (2) Yadavanad Reserved Forest Block including the Reserved forests of Nidtha and Jainkalbetta, (3) Anekad Reserved Forest Block including the Reserved forest of Atthur, (4) Dubare Reserved Forest Block, (5) Brahmagiri Ghat Reserved Forest Block, (6) Kerti Reserved Forest Block including the Reserved Forest of Urti Block, (7) Padinalknad Reserved Forest Block, (8) Pattighat Reserved Forest Block and (9) Kadamakal Reserved Forest Block. Licences are issued only for one shooting block at a time. There is also one more block known as the Devamachi

Reserved Forest block including the Reserved Forest of Murkal. It comes under the Nagarhole Game Sanctuary where shooting is strictly prohibited.

Game Laws.

A set of rules for the control of hunting, shooting and fishing in the reserved forests, except in the areas declared as Game Sanctuary, were framed and issued in July 1955 by the Chief Commissioner of Coorg when it was a Part 'C' State. There is, however, a proviso in the rules that shooting of tigers may be allowed in the areas comprising the Game Sanctuary under a special licence. These rules give an idea of the various kinds of animals, birds, etc., that are to be found in the district and the steps taken to protect them from indiscriminate shooting. According to these rules, the poisoning or dynamiting of rivers or other waters is absolutely prohibited. No person can claim a shooting licence as a matter of right. The fee for a block is Rs. 30 for fifteen days which shall be from 1st to 15th or from 16th to the end of the month. In addition to the fee, the applicant has to deposit with the Conservator of Forests, a sum of Rs. 100 which should be claimed within three months from the date of surrender of the shooting licence, failing which it will lapse to Government. The licence is issued to a person for only one shooting block at a time and it is valid for fifteen days. Normally, not more than one licence is issued to any individual during the year. No person who has been given a shooting licence for any block is given a licence for the same block again, if there are persons who have applied previously and are on the waiting list. The licence is not transferable and the licensee will not be allowed to take with him more than one attendant who should not carry any gun or shoot. In order to help the licensee and also to watch the Government interests, a forest guard is deputed to accompany every licensee. The pay and travelling allowances for the period for which the forest guard is deputed, will have to be met by the licensee and will be deducted from his security deposit. The licence should be shown on demand.

Whenever any animal is shot, the licensee should report the fact to the Conservator of Forests within three days and to the Territorial Ranger within twenty-four hours giving information as to when and where the animal was shot. Trophies should be produced for inspection whenever required by the Territorial Ranger. On the expiry of the currency of the licence or when the licensee finally leaves the shooting block, it should be surrendered immediately to the Conservator either in person or by registered post with a statement of what has been shot.

Close Seasons.

Certain periods in the year have been declared as close seasons during which no bird or animal should be shot. There are different close seasons for different species and they are given below:—

Species	*Close Season*
All birds except green pigeon ..	1st March to 31st August
Green Pigeon ..	1st March to 31st July
Duck, Teal and other migratory birds	1st May to 30th September
Mouse-deer ..	15th June to 15th October
All Big Game ..	15th June to 15th October

There is no close season for carnivora (tiger, panther and bear) and vermin.

Restrictions.

There is a limit as regards the number of animals that can be shot in any one calendar year by a licensee, irrespective of the number of licences taken by him.

There is no limit in the case of jungle-fowl, spurfowl, partridge, quail, pigeon, duck, teal, snipe, plover, and wild-dog.

The shooting of parrots, birds of song and bright plumage, Malabar squirrel, the female and immature males of bison, chital (spotted-deer), sambur, antelope and barking deer, and female tiger followed by young cubs unless it is declared as a cattle lifter, is totally prohibited.

The shooting of animals defined as big game as well as shooting of tigers, panthers and bears with shot of slug is prohibited. Only high velocity rifle should be used for shooting bison.

Removal of birds' eggs, setting of sets, snares, traps or spring guns, the use of poison and explosive or the digging of pits to entrap or kill game, shooting of any game other than tiger, panther, bear, wild pig and porcupine at any water hole, salt lick, from a machan or shelter, or by the aid of artificial light or from any motor vehicle or after 6 P.M. and before clear dawn are prohibited. Capturing of birds of song or of bright plumage or any living animal is prohibited. Selling of meat obtained from any game and also export or import of meat obtained from any game from or to places outside Coorg is also prohibited. Beating for any game except with the written permission of the Conservator of Forests is also prohibited.

Game Sanctuary.

In order to enlist the co-operation of the people in the preservation of wild life and to afford facilities to the people to see and study wild life in their natural surroundings, a game sanctuary known as the Nagarhole Game Sanctuary was established in July 1955. It is 38 miles from Virajpet and comprises about 111 sq. miles of reserved forests in the south-eastern region of Coorg district, out of which an area of five square miles constitutes the sanctum sanctorum. The game sanctuary extends over three forest ranges, namely, Nagarhole, Kalhalla and Tithimathi ranges. It adjoins the State forests of Mysore district

along its eastern and south-eastern boundaries and a portion of Wynad forests of Kerala State in the south.

The entire area of the sanctuary is more or less a plateau with a general elevation of 2,500 feet above mean sea level. This region has magnificent forests wherein most of the important South Indian timber species occur. There is also a large area, nearly 14,000 acres in extent, of teak plantations in this region, the oldest being the 1868 teak plantation at Karmad. A characteristic plant of these jungles is bamboo.

The sanctuary exhibits varied fauna consisting of elephants, bisons, tigers, panthers, bears, spotted-deer, barking-deer, wild pigs and porcupines. Spotted deer and sambur are particularly abundant and bucks with large horns are frequently met with. The elephant camp of the Forest Department, particularly the Hebballa elephant camp on the banks of the Lakshmanathirtha river, is another attraction to the visitors.

The sanctuary has motorable roads and rest houses at frequent intervals, which enable the tourists to visit every corner of the sanctuary without difficulty. There are convenient rest houses at Nagarhole, Kalhalla, Murkal and Tithimathi.

Climate.

The climate of this district, a good portion of which lies on the Western Ghats and the rest in the plateau region to the east of the Western Ghats, is characterised by high humidity, heavy rainfall, particularly on the ghats and neighbourhood and a cool, equable and pleasant climate. The year may be divided into four seasons. The summer season from March to May is followed by the south-west monsoon season from June to September. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season. The period from December to February is the season of generally clear bright weather.

Rainfall.

The district has a network of 22 rain-gauge stations with records ranging from 26 to 80 years. A statement of the rainfall at these stations and another for the district as a whole are given in tables 1 and 2 appended at the end of this Chapter. The average annual rainfall in the district is 2725.5 mm. (107.30″), excluding the rainfall at Mercara and Ammathi which are hill stations. The rainfall in the district decreases from the west towards the east. On account of the nature of the terrain which consists of hills and valleys, the variation in the rainfall within the district is considerable. The annual rainfall at Bhagamandala in the Western Ghats region is 6032.3 mm. (237.50″) while at Kushalnagar on the eastern border of the district it is only 1120.0 mm. (44.10″). June, July and August are the months with heavy rainfall and rainfall in July is the heaviest. The rainfall during the south-west monsoon period is about 80 per cent of the annual rain-

fall. Some rainfall, mostly in the form of thundershowers, occurs during April, May and October. The variation in the annual rainfall from year to year is not large. During the fifty-year period, 1901 to 1950, the highest rainfall amounting to 142 per cent of the normal occurred in 1924 while the lowest rainfall which was only 62 per cent of the normal occurred in 1905. Rainfall, less than 80 per cent of the normal, occurred in five years, out of which three years were consecutive. Considering the rainfall at the individual stations, at twelve out of the 22 stations, annual rainfall of less than 80 per cent of the normal in two consecutive years occurred once or twice. It will be seen from table 2 that in 40 years out of fifty, the annual rainfall in the district was between 2200 and 3200 mm. (86.61" and 125.98").

On an average, there are 118 rainy days (*i.e.*, days with rain of 2.5 mm. - 10 cents - or more) in a year in the district. This number varies from 85 at Kushalnagar to 153 at Pulingoth.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district was 842.0 mm. (33.15") at Bhagamandala on 25th July 1924.

Temperature.

The only meteorological observatory in the district is at Mercara. The records of this observatory can be taken as representative of the meteorological conditions in the district in general. But at lower elevations in the eastern part of the district, temperatures may be a little higher than those at Mercara. Temperatures begin to increase from March till April which is the hottest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at 28.6°C (83.5°F) and a mean daily minimum at 17.8°C (64.0°F). On individual days, the day temperatures may go up to 34 or 35°C (93.2 or 95.0°F) during April and May. With the commencement of the south-west monsoon in June, there is an appreciable drop in day temperatures, but the drop in night temperatures is only slight. With the close of the monsoon season towards the end of September, there is a slight increase in day temperatures. While the day temperatures in the next four months are nearly the same as in October, the nights become progressively cooler. The mean daily minimum temperature is the least in January when it is 14.0°C (57.2°F). But during the period, December to February, the minimum temperature may go down to about 9°C (48.2°F) on some days.

The highest maximum temperature recorded at Mercara was 35.0°C (95.0°F) on 11th May 1902, and the lowest minimum temperature was 8.9°C (48.0°F) on 20th February 1936.

Humidity.

In general, the air is highly humid all through the year and particularly so during the monsoon months. The period from

January to March is the driest part of the year when the afternoon relative humidities are on the average of about 55 per cent.

Cloudiness

Skies are heavily clouded or overcast in the monsoon season. During the rest of the year, skies are lightly to moderately clouded.

Winds.

The winds are light to moderate with some strengthening during the south-west monsoon months. Winds blow mainly from directions betwen the south-west and north-west during the south-west monsoon season. In the post-monsoon season, winds are mainly north-easterly or easterly but on some days north-westerly winds blow in the afternoons. During the rest of the year, winds blow from directions between north and east in the mornings and between south-west and north-west in the afternoons.

Special Weather Phenomena.

During the post-monsoon months of October and November, some of the storms and depressions which originate in the Bay of Bengal cross the east coast of the peninsula and move westwards emerging later into the Arabian Sea. These affect the district and its neighbourhood causing widespread heavy rain and high winds. Thunderstorms occur on about six or seven days during April, May and October, and on about two or three days in March and November.

Tables 3, 4 and 5 give the temperature and humidity, mean wind speed and frequency of special weather phenomena, respectively, for Mercara.

CHAPTER I—TABLES.

TABLE 1.

Normals and Extremes of Rainfall.

Station	No. of years of data		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as percent of normal and year**	Lowest annual rainfall as percent of normal and year**	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours* Amount (mm)	Date
Virajpet ..	50	a	4.6	7.1	17.5	67.8	154.4	572.8	899.6	435.6	203.2	212.3	64.8	19.1	2671.8	161 (1923)	73 (1928)	366.5	1926 Jul. 7
Kushalnagar ..	50	b	0.5	0.5	1.5	4.9	8.6	21.5	26.4	22.3	15.4	12.8	5.8	1.4	121.6				
		a	5.0	5.8	14.7	67.3	139.9	143.5	248.7	142.2	89.4	165.9	78.2	18.8	1120.0	140 (1946)	63 (1938)	160.5	1948 Jul. 9
Somwarpet ..	50	b	0.4	0.5	1.1	5.1	6.6	12.5	19.1	13.2	8.3	9.9	5.1	1.1	84.9				
		a	5.6	5.6	12.9	62.0	110.7	323.9	774.9	436.1	170.9	168.4	83.1	21.1	2175.2	145 (1923)	69 (1918)	237.4	1924 Jul. 18
Napoklu ..	50	b	0.6	0.4	1.0	4.9	7.6	18.3	24.9	21.7	12.6	11.0	5.5	1.4	109.9				
		a	10.7	10.9	47.7	135.4	168.7	561.6	1058.4	545.1	210.3	237.2	98.0	21.3	3105.3	156 (1923)	72 (1918)	323.3	1924 Jul. 17
Sanivarasanthe ..	50	b	0.8	0.8	3.2	8.4	10.0	21.7	26.6	22.6	15.4	14.0	6.3	1.4	131.2				
		a	4.3	4.6	15.7	55.4	107.4	271.8	629.4	386.1	147.8	166.4	76.5	16.3	1883.7	142 (1923)	76 (1918)	264.4	1924 Jul. 15
Ponnampet ..	44	b	0.4	0.4	1.0	4.1	6.9	16.8	25.3	21.8	12.1	10.2	5.2	1.0	105.2				
		a	4.1	3.1	15.0	72.1	138.7	497.8	822.7	412.7	195.1	170.9	74.9	14.7	2421.8	151 (1924)	72 (1918)	303.5	1924 Jul. 25
Bhagamandala .	44	b	0.4	0.3	1.2	5.3	8.3	20.3	25.4	21.7	15.3	11.1	5.5	1.1	115.9				
		a	6.3	6.1	26.7	94.7	241.5	1287.0	2140.5	1237.2	497.3	339.3	135.4	20.3	6032.3	163 (1924)	72 (1944)	342.0	1924 Jul. 25
Suntikoppa	4[illegible]	b	0.7	0.3	1.7	6.7	10.5	26.1	29.3	28.3	21.4	17.0	7.7	1.6	151.6				
		a	5.6	6.1	18.5	64.8	118.4	293.1	542.8	321.6	144.8	160.3	74.9	12.9	1763.8	132 (1946)	70 (1944)	222.5	1924 Jul. 16
Sri[illegible]ga	6	b	0.3	0.5	1.1	5.1	8.4	18.6	24.8	21.9	12.9	11.0	5.6	1.1	111.6				
		a	3.8	4.8	12.0	82.3	100.6	498.9	1091.9	633.5	217.7	134.4	82.5	15.5	2878.8	130 (1936)	74 (1945)	272.0	1941 Jun. 9
K[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.5	0.3	0.9	6.7	9.1	20.7	27.3	22.2	14.6	9.3	6.1	1.3	117.1				
			7.4	3.8	21.6	97.0	180.9	1015.2	1586.2	991.9	481.3	322.3	124.7	23.6	4855.9	126 (1943)	79 (1939)	299.7	1953 Jul. 6
								[illegible]	20.0	27.6	20.9	16.1	8.1	1.7	147.5				

Station	Years		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	Highest annual	Lowest annual	Heaviest in 24 hours
			[illegible]	3.6	32.8	172.5	248.4	1277.[illegible]	1905.0	1125.0	502.9	453.1	178.6	27.4	5940.7	119 (1932)	74 (1944)	330.2 1943 Jul. 13
[illegible]	18	b	0.5	0.2	1.6	8.2	19.5	26.7	29.9	27.9	19.3	17.9	8.7	1.6	153.1			
		a	7.3	2.8	20.6	93.2	192.5	1094.7	1699.8	1028.5	476.5	279.4	129.0	32.0	5054.3	126 (1946)	80 (1934)	304.5 1956 Aug 16
Belek[illegible]	15	b	0.4	0.3	1.1	5.9	10.1	26.0	29.7	26.6	20.4	14.3	6.8	1.6	143.2			
		a	5.8	4.1	21.3	94.5	123.9	284.0	585.5	347.0	155.2	153.9	79.5	13.7	1868.4	135 (1946)	75 (1934)	265.2 1953 Jul. 6
Nagar[illegible]le	18	b	0.4	0.4	1.1	6.4	8.6	17.7	25.6	20.2	12.5	11.3	5.7	1.4	111.3			
		a	6.9	3.8	20.3	95.3	123.4	242.1	471.4	274.8	122.9	155.5	79.3	14.7	1610.4	128 (1940)	72 (1934)	307.3 1953 Jul. 6
Karmad	18	b	0.5	0.2	1.3	6.4	9.2	17.3	24.6	19.4	11.0	10.9	6.0	1.4	108.3			
		a	6.9	4.3	24.1	75.7	104.4	256.0	526.3	282.2	153.2	148.3	70.4	16.3	1667.5	143 (1946)	77 (1934)	291.1 1953 Jul. 6
Murkal	18	b	0.5	0.4	1.4	5.6	8.3	17.2	24.1	19.7	13.1	10.9	4.5	1.6	107.9			
		a	6.3	9.1	20.6	97.8	138.7	190.7	348.2	220.2	126.0	174.2	77.0	18.5	1427.3	153 (1940)	68 (1934)	175.3 1933 Aug. 19
Tithimath[illegible]	18	b	0.5	0.8	1.2	6.2	9.2	14.8	21.9	17.5	10.6	9.9	5.0	1.4	99.0			
		a	6.9	5.3	23.9	80.3	117.6	229.4	320.8	177.3	121.4	161.3	63.0	13.7	1320.9	126 (1943)	78 (1945)	190.5 1943 Jul. 11
Dubar[illegible]	18	b	0.5	0.6	1.5	6.0	8.4	16.3	22.2	15.4	11.2	11.4	4.6	1.3	99.4			
		a	4.3	5.1	23.4	98.3	117.6	182.4	325.1	184.1	102.1	155.2	70.1	16.5	1287.2	128 (1940)	74 (1938)	147.3 1948 Jul. 9
Hudugor	18	b	0.6	0.5	1.5	6.2	8.4	15.3	22.2	16.0	9.6	10.6	4.4	1.3	96.6			
		a	6.9	7.4	18.3	74.9	92.2	135.9	302.0	198.4	92.5	151.6	57.7	16.3	1154.1	145 (1946)	65 (1938)	102.4 1953 Jul. 6
Sampa[illegible]	18	b	0.5	0.5	1.1	5.5	7.9	13.2	23.2	17.9	9.5	11.0	4.3	1.1	95.7			
		a	7.1	6.5	25.7	120.4	193.3	692.7	1291.3	936.0	467.9	341.4	156.5	23.6	4268.2	129 (1946)	80 (1939)	247.9 1948 Jul. 10
Coorg (District)		b	[illegible].4	0.5	2.0	6.8	10.2	25.4	29.3	27.1	21.7	18.3	8.5	1.8	152.0			
		a	[illegible].4	5.6	21.9	90.1	145.8	502.6	878.2	515.8	233.9	212.6	93.7	18.9	2725.5	142 (1924)	62 (1905)	
		b	0.5	0.4	1.4	5.9	8.9	19.6	25.6	21.5	14.4	12.4	6.0	1.4	118.0			

HILL STATIONS.

Station	Years		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	Highest annual	Lowest annual	Heaviest in 24 hours
Mercara	50	a	3.1	7.5	18.8	67.8	135.9	606.3	1129.3	682.7	307.6	139.9	81.3	22.1	3265.4	127 (1923)	66 (1918)	364.5 1924 Jul. 17
Ammathi	44	b	0.6	0.5	1.4	5.0	8.3	23.0	28.4	26.6	18.9	12.7	5.5	1.4	132.4			
		a	5.3	6.3	22.3	76.5	141.5	402.1	722.1	389.1	178.1	194.8	86.4	15.7	2240.2	237 (1924)	68 (1918)	410.7 1924 Jul. 25
		b	0.4	0.5	1.7	6.2	8.9	19.7	25.1	21.0	13.9	12.0	5.7	1.0	116.1			

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.
(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm or more).
*Based on all available data up to 1956.
**Years given in brackets.

TABLE - 2.

FREQUENCY OF ANNUAL RAINFALL IN THE DISTRICT.

(*Data* 1901 - 1950).

Range in mm.		*No. of years*	*Range in mm.*		*No. of years*
1601—1800	..	1	2801—3000	..	5
1601—2000	.	0	3001—3200	..	7
2001—2200	..	5	3201—3400	..	2
2201—2400	..	9	3401—3600	..	1
2401—2600	..	8	3601—3800	..	0
2601—2800	..	11	3801—4000	..	1

TABLE - 3.

NORMALS OF TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY.

(MERCARA).

Month		*Mean Daily Maximum Temperature*	*Mean Daily Minimum Temperature*	*Highest Maximum ever recorded*		*Lowest Minimum ever recorded*		*Relative Humidity*	
								0830	1730*
		°C	°C	°C	Date	°C	Date	%	%
January	..	24.9	14.00	31.7	1954 January, 4	9.4	1946 January, 16	78	56
February	..	27.0	14.9	31.7	1911 February, 22	8.9	1936 February, 20	74	55
March	..	28.9	16.4	33.3	1921 March, 30	10 6	1955 March, 21	70	56
April	..	28.6	17.8	33.9	1896 April, 26	10.6	1955 April, 16	78	70
May	..	26.7	18.2	35.0	1902 May, 11	9.4	1956 May, 21	85	78
June	..	22.2	17.4	30.0	1939 June, 2	10.0	1955 June, 29	93	95
July	..	20.3	16.8	28.9	1955 July, 6	11.2	1958 July, 1	95	98
August	..	20.7	16.8	26.7	1951 August, 16	12.2	1920 August, 1	95	97
September	..	22.0	16.6	27.2	1951 September, 23	12.2	1935 September, 24	92	92
October	..	24.0	16 9	26.3	1899 October, 7	10.6	1948 October, 30	87	84
November	..	23.9	15.8	27.8	1918 November, 14	10 6	1947 November, 3	83	73
December	..	23.8	14.3	28.9	1903 December, 23	9.4	1937 December, 6	82	60
Annual	..	24.4	16.3	..	..	..	..	84	76

*Hours I.S.T.

TABLE – 4.

MEAN WIND SPEED IN Km/Hr.

(MERCARA).

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
6.9	5.8	5.3	5.6	6.8	9.8	12.4	11.1	8.9	5.8	7.1	7.9	7.8

TABLE – 5.

SPECIAL WEATHER PHENOMENA.

(MERCARA).

Mean No. of days with		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Thunder	..	0.1	0.1	2.5	6.5	6.1	0.7	0.1	0.1	1.6	5.9	2.4	0.2	26.3
Hail	..	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Dust-Storm	..	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Squall	..	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fog	..	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

COORG is the anglicized form of 'Kodagu', its original name. The name 'Kodagu' seems to have been derived from the word 'Kodimalenad' which means dense forest land on steep hills. The historical period of Coorg begins from about the second century A.D. But as in the case of almost every place in India, Coorg also had a legendary period before its history begins.

Legendary Period.

The legendary origin of the three names of 'Kodagu' *viz.*, Brahmakshetra, Matsya Desha and Kroda Desha and the adoption of Lopamudre, daughter of Brahma, as his daughter by Kavera Muni, which adoption gave Lopamudre, the name of Kaveri and later Kaveri's marriage with the sage Agasthya and her transformation into a river are all described in the 'Kaveri Mahatmya', an account of the glorification of the Kaveri. The 'Kaveri Mahatmya' is in Sanskrit. The origin of the three names of legendary Kodagu are narrated here as given in the 'Kaveri Mahatmya'.

It appears that once Brahma came on a pilgrimage to this world and in the course of his travels came to Sahyadri (the western ghats) where he saw a strange sight. A 'Nelli' tree stood before him spreading out a hundred boughs. As he stood looking at the tree, he beheld the form of Vishnu with conch, discus, and club. The next moment, when he fixed his eye upon it , he saw nothing but a bare tree. Brahma worshipped this Vishnu for many days, pouring upon the tree water from the Vraja river. But it may be pointed out in this connection that there is no river or stream in Coorg called Vraja. On account of Brahma worshipping Vishnu in this land, the country was called 'Brahma Kshetra".

Of the second name, two accounts are given. "There is a mountain called Half Moon (Ardha Chandra)" says the bard, "near which there is a holy spring". In it, Vishnu took the form of a fish and worshipped Shiva. Shiva blessed the fish with immortality and Vishnu gave the land the name of "fish country" or Matsya Desha.

Siddhartha, the king of the renowned Matsya Desha, identified with Hanagal in Dharwar, had four sons. Chandravarma, the youngest among them, was the most talented. He wanted to carve out a dominion for himself, since as the fourth son of his father he had no chance of succeeding to his kingdom. Therefore, he took leave of his father and set out to seek his fortune. He was accompanied by a goodly army. In the course of his travels, he visited many holy places and at last came to Brahmagiri in the western ghats. Here he dismissed his army and devoted himself to the worship of Parvati. Pleased with the fervent worshipper, the goddess gave him a sword, a white horse and an army and asked him to conquer that land (land on the summit of the western ghats) from the wild tribes then in possession. Chandravarma overcame the wild tribes by the blessings of the goddess Parvati and was crowned king of that land; since he was a son of the king of Matsya Desha, the country was called "Matsya Desha".

Chandravarma is also said to be the progenitor of the Coorg race. Though this story may be mythological, Col. Wilks opines that this Chandravarma may have been a Kadamba prince who had his kingdom in the north-west of Mysore and from whose kingdom the first colonists of Coorg migrated. Wilks says that "a reference to the history of the Kadambas will show that the name of Chandravarma was a familiar one among the first princes of that line and also that their possessions embraced all the countries contiguous to Coorg except perhaps on its southern side". Therefore Wilks and, later Rice, have thought that the legendary origin of Coorg from Chandravarma is based on the historical fact of the Kadambas ruling in Coorg in the early centuries of the Christian era, the Coorgs being the descendants of their soldiers garrisoned in Coorg. This is only one of the several theories advanced about the origin of Coorgs but nothing authoritatively is known about their origin (Lewis Rice: Mysore and Coorg Vol. III, page 98, I and II paras).

The third name of the country is "Kroda Desha". The following story is given of its origin. Chandravarma, the first Kshatriya king of the land, had two wives, one a Kshatriya and the other a Sudra. The Kshatriya wife bore him no children, but his Sudra wife bore him eleven sons. These eleven sons were brought up as Kshatriya princes. They married a hundred daughters of the king of Vidarbha Desha. These hundred daughters were born of Sudra mothers and all these princesses became fruitful mothers, each having more than a hundred sons. These sons and the people who came from Vidarbha with the daughters of the Vidarbha king spread themselves over the country, levelling it and bringing it under cultivation to a distance all round of five Yojanas (a distance of five miles). They changed the face of the country by the strength of their own arms and the strong nails of

their hands. Because this renovation of the country resembled the renowned deed of the Varaha or Kroda (the boar incarnation of the god Vishnu), the country of Chandravarma's sons and grandsons was thenceforth called Kroda Desha, and its inhabitants the Kroda people. This word 'Kroda' is said to have been changed and corrupted by degrees into Kodagu, which is the present name of the country.

The above stories of the origin of the three names given to Coorg or Kodagu may have been the outcome of the imagination of the author of the Kaveri Mahatmya. But in the story of Chandravarma, the prince of Matsya Desha, coming to Brahmagiri, conquering this land from the wild tribes and ruling over it may be the root of the Coorg tradition that Kadamba princes ruled in Coorg, and that, as stated by Col. Wilks in his History of Mysore, the Coorgs were descended from the conquering army of the Kadamba kings.

During the legendary period, some wild and uncivilised tribes apparently lived in what is now Coorg, or Kodagu; for, it is said that the goddess Parvati, pleased with the meditation of Chandravarma, gave him a sword and a horse and asked him to conquer the land from the wild tribes who were then ruling Coorg. In the Kaveri Purana, it is said that Chandravarma's grandsons made Brahmins and other castes settle in the land which they had levelled and brought into cultivation. Nothing more is known of the people of Coorg of those days.

Pre-historical period and Archæology.

In the pre-historic period, a pre-Dravidian or Dravidian tribe of people seems to have inhabited Coorg. They must have belonged to the same stock of people who lived all over South India at that time. Pre-historic sepulchral remains which have been found distributed over Mysore, Coimbatore, Salem, Madurai and other districts in Southern India have been discovered in Coorg also. The first sepulchral remains were opened at the Almanda family lands in Arameri village in Virajpet nad in 1850. Subsequent discovery of these sepulchral remains or cairns, in large numbers, was made by Lieutenant Mackenzie, the Assistant Superintendent of Coorg, in 1868, on a patch of waste land near Virajpet in South Coorg. The other places where such cairns were found are Suchamakeri, Andagove, Doddabilha, Kirebilha and Kodagarahalli villages. These cairns are called Pandavapare by the people in Somwarpet taluk They are either level with the ground or their tops crop up just a little out of it. When laid bare, they present a stone chamber, the cist or the kistavæn of archæologists. This stone chamber is about seven feet long, four feet wide and four feet high, composed of four upright granite slabs, 7 or 8 inches thick, and surmounted by a large slab that projects over the sides; the flooring is likewise of stone. The narrow front slab has an aperture of an

irregular curve, nearly two feet in diameter, broken out from the top, and generally faces east. Sometimes, a large compartment is by a partition stone divided into two chambers. These cairns are either solitary or in groups, in some instances forming regular rows. Others are surrounded by a single or double circle of stones from two to three feet high.

The relics found in them are peculiarly shaped pottery, buried in earth that nearly fills the chambers. The vessels contain earth, sand, bones, iron spear heads and beads of precious stone or quartz. The pottery consists of pots and urns of burnt clay and is of red or black colour. Some resemble the ordinary native pots, others are narrow urns, contracted towards the mouth and tapering towards the bottom, where three or four short legs give them support for standing upright. They are smooth and shining, but can hardly be said to be glazed. There are no decorations on the surface except perhaps a line round the brim, but their forms are well-proportioned and even elegant. Some of the vessels are in miniature like children's toys, from 1½ to 2½ inches in diameter. The earth which fills the pots is the same as that within the chamber of the cairn: bones, ashes and bits of charcoal are usually found at the bottom of the urns. Grains of *ragi* have also been found within the chambers and it is likely that some practical farmer or wandering Kuruba of those times selected the cairn for his granary. Beads of red cornelian of a cylindrical shape and longitudinally pierced and ornamented with straight or zigzag parallel lines scratched into the stone are occasionally met with in the smaller pottery. The iron implements, spears and arrow heads are very much corroded, so that their shape is hardly distinguishable.

It is not known who the builders of these cairns were; but it seems to be certain that the people who now inhabit this little district have no relation with the people of the times when the cairns were built. But as cairns similar to those found in Coorg have been found all over Southern India, it can be presumed that the same kind of pre-historic people lived in Coorg as well as in other parts of Southern India. These cairns were most likely the resting places of the earthly remains of a generation that existed anterior to the people known to history. These people must have become extinct long before the dawn of civilisation.

Coorg in the historical period.

The earliest mention of Kodagu (Coorg) is found in the Tamil literature of the Sangam period. The Tamil poets have described the extent of the Pandyan kingdom from Kudakam, that is Coorg, in the west, to the Bay of Bengal in the east and from Tirupati in the north to Kanyakumari in the south. Apart from the mention of Coorg as Kudakam in the Tamil literature of about the second century A.D., nothing more is known of Coorg in those times.

Coorg, from the earliest times known to history, up to about the beginnig of the seventeenth century, was not ruled by any

one dynasty completely at any time. Different parts of Coorg were being ruled by petty princes and chieftains who owed allegiance to bigger powers outside the district.

The Gangas.

The history of Coorg from about the second century A.D. up to about the 16th century A.D. can be gathered only from inscriptions. The earliest inscriptions found in Coorg belong to the Ganga dynasty whose capital was Talakad on the Cauvery to the south-east of Mysore. The Gangas ruled the southern part of the present Mysore State from the western ghats to the boundaries of the present Coimbatore district. The earliest inscription of the Gangas is engraved on copper plates. These plates were found in the treasury at Mercara and hence are known as Mercara Treasury plates or as the Mercara plates. The inscription on these plates tells us of a gift made by the Ganga king, Konganimahadhiraja named Avinita, to a Jain priest. This inscription does not relate to any place in Coorg but as the next three inscriptions found in Coorg relate to the same dynasty and make mention of grants of lands in Coorg to Jain priests and Jain basadis, it may be said that the southern part of Coorg where the inscriptions granting lands were found belonged to the Ganga kings from about the end of the 5th century A.D. to about the 11th century A.D. The date of the Mercara plates is 466 A.D and it records the gift of the village of Badanaguppe in Purnad situated in the south-west of Mysore adjoining Coorg to a Jain priest. As the Ganga kings ruled from Talkad from the 3rd century A.D., it is probable that they might have conquered parts of Coorg to the west of Purnadu or Punnatu earlier than the date of the grant of Badanaguppe village in 466 A.D.

There are three inscriptions on stone of the Ganga dynasty in Coorg. The date of the first inscription is 809 Saka era, corresponding to 888 A.D. In this inscription, it is stated that a king, who is described as Permmanadi, gave to a Jain priest for the Satyavakya Jina temple the twelve hamlets of Bilur in Peddoregare on the bank of the peddore or big river. The peddore is the Lakshmanathirtha river, which is still called the Doddahole or big river in Coorg. As the inscription is dated 888 A.D. and as the Ganga king who ruled from 870 to 907 A.D. was Rajamalla or Rachamalla Satyavakya II, the donor of the twelve hamlets was Rachamalla Satyavakya II. In the inscription, he calls himself as Satyavakya Konguniyarmmadharmma-maharajadhiraja. Lord of Konalapura, Lord of Nandagiri. The next inscription, which is of the same king but undated, records the conferment of an estate on the son of a gavunda or farmer, and fixing of the land and rice dues in permanence for the land granted to him. Another important inscription of the Ganga kings is of the time of Satyavakya Konginivarma IV, who ruled in Talakad in Saka 899 or 978 A.D. His younger brother, Rakkasa, was the governor at Peddoregare or the land by the side of the Laksh-

manathirtha river. In this inscription, it is recorded that a Jain priest of Sravana Belagola acquired possession of Peggur, a village in Kiggatnad in the present Virajpet taluk, from the Ganga king Satyavakya. A new trench called 'Posa Vadaga' was dug round the village to protect it from attack by the people from outside the village. The existence of the above three inscriptions in Kiggatnad shows that at the time of the Ganga domination of the southern parts of Mysore, the southern half of Coorg must have been under them.

Another inscription of the time of the last Ganga king dated in Saka era 921 corresponding to 1000 A.D. was found in the northern part of Coorg. It says that a man named Hanachadharma Setti who had served under Kunindora gave for dharma a khanduga of land. There is no mention of any king in this inscription. A part of north Coorg was under Ganga suzerainty at the time of Rachamalla Satyavakya II, who reigned from 870 to 907 A.D. In his reign, his nephew, Ereyappa, was the governor of the Kongalnad Eight Thousand, which territory included along with some portion of the present Arkalgud taluk of Hassan district, the present Sanivarasanthe hobli.

The Gangas were Jains. It is evident from their inscriptions that a close connection existed between the Jains of Coorg and those of Sravana Belagola.

The Gangas did not rule Coorg themselves directly As has already been stated, Ereyappa, the nephew of the Ganga king Rachamalla Satyavakya II, was the governor of the Kongalnad Eight Thousand. In the time of the Ganga king, Satyavakya IV, his younger brother Rakkasa was the governor of Peddoregare, as is found in the inscription. In the inscription granting the village of Peggur in Kiggatnad to a Jain priest, four malepas or hill chieftains among others have been mentioned as the guardians or the protectors of the grant of the village to the Jain priest. These hill chiefs were apparently the Changalvas who ruled the western part of the Mysore district and the southern and central parts of the Coorg district from the 10th century. These Changalvas were the feudatories of the Gangas, as may be concluded from the fact that they resisted the Cholas when the latter captured Talakad, the Ganga capital, and put an end to the Ganga rule.

The Kadambas

The northern part of Coorg seems to have been under the Kadambas for some time. In the story of Chandravarma, the prince of Matsya Desha, coming to Brahmagiri and ruling over it may lie the origin of the Coorg tradition that Kadamba princes ruled in Coorg. The name of Chandravarma was a familiar one among the first princes of the Kadamba dynasty and these kings with their capital at Banavasi were ruling all the countries con-

tiguous to Coorg except perhaps on its southern side. Therefore, it is supposed that the early Kadambas were ruling the northern half of Coorg. The Kadambas were subdued by the Chalukyas in the 6th century, but held subordinate positions for several centuries later. One branch of the family existed in the eleventh century in the country now called Manjarabad, in the Hassan district, to the north of Coorg.

These Kadambas of Manjarabad exercised some suzerainty over the area round about Somwarpet; for, we have an inscription on a stone in the Suggi Deva temple in Yadoor village of Yedavanad (a part of the present Somwarpet nad) which relates to a king named Duddarasa of the Manjarabad Kadamba dynasty. This inscription is a *Vira Sasana* erected to the memory of Duddarasa by his brother Jujarasa, who was in charge of the Coorg part of the Kadamba kingdom. Duddarasa is described therein as a pleasure garden of the Malepas or hill chiefs. The existence of this inscription relating to a Kadamba king shows conclusively that that part of Coorg where the inscription was erected was under the Manjarbad Kadambas. This inscription is dated 1017 of the Salivahana Saka era corresponding to 1095 of the Christian era.

The Cholas.

The Cholas overthrew the Ganga sovereignty in Mysore towards the end of the tenth century. Then they became the dominant power in the south and east of Mysore and in Coorg for a little more than a hundred years. After the capture of Talakad, the Ganga capital, in 1004 A.D., the Cholas began their operations westwards towards Coorg. They were opposed by the Changalvas, who were ruling in Hunsur taluk of Mysore district and in Coorg. As stated before, these Changalvas were the feudatories of the Gangas. The Changalvas were defeated in a decisive battle at Panasoge or Hanasoge on the Cauvery and came under the domination of the Cholas. This victory over the Changalvas was due to a warrior named Manija, under the general, Panchavan-Maharaya. He was rewarded by the Chola king, Rajaraja, with the title of Kshatriya-Sikamani Kongalva and granted an estate at Malavvi (now Malambi in Sanivarasanthe hobli). The Kongalva territory extended over the Arkalgud taluk of the present Hassan district and Yelusaviraseeme or the present Sanivarasanthe hobli in north Coorg.

Both the Changalvas and the Kongalvas have Chola prenomens from this time,—denoting their subordination to the Cholas. The Cholas included in the list of their conquests Kuda malainad, which is the Coorg hill country—Kodugu or Kodagumalenad, as expressly stated in the inscription number 122 of Tirumukudal Narasipura. The Cholas too did not rule Coorg directly. During their suzerainty over Coorg, they built a temple for

the deity, Veerabhadra, at a place on the eastern border of Coorg on the bank of the Cauvery and installed the deity. For this reason, the deity is known to this day as Chola-pratishta Veerabhadra. The Chola suzerainty which lasted for about one hundred years ended when they were overpowered by the Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra. They lost all their territories in the Kannada country and retired to their own country.

The Changalvas

The Changalvas are a line of kings who ruled in the western part of Mysore and in Coorg from the 10th century to the 17th century. Their original territory was Chenganad, corresponding to the present Periyapatna and Hunsur taluks. They claimed to be Yadavas and of the lunar race. These kings are generallly styled Mahamandalika, Mandaleshwara or Mahamandaleshwara, which name indicates their subordinate position to the strong and powerful kings who ruled the plain country to the east or the north of their own principality. They were originally Jains. As the inscriptions of these Changalvas are found in Coorg, Hunsur, Yedatore or the present Krishnarajanagar taluks, it can be said with certainty that the Changalvas were masters of these territories. The Jain priests of the Hottege Gachcha claimed exclusive jurisdiction over the Jain basadis at Panasoge on the south of the Cauvery and at Tala-Kaveri in Coorg. These two places may perhaps have been the limits of the Changalva kingdom, east and west.

The Changalvas of Coorg may be divided into two lines as the earlier Changalvas and the later Changalvas. The earlier Changalvas ruled in Coorg and in the present Hunsur taluk of the Mysore district from the tenth to the thirteenth century. Though Jains at first, they embraced the Lingayat faith in the beginning of the thirteenth century. Though the earlier Changalvas had established themselves as kings during the time of the Gangas, we have no certain knowledge of any Changalva king of the Ganga period. The first Changalva of whom we have any knowledge is Nanni Changalva and as he had the prefix 'Rajendra Chola' before his name, he must have been a feudatory of the Cholas and belonged to the beginning of the 11th century. He rebuilt a Jain basadi at Panasoge which had been endowed by the Ganga king, Marasimha.

It is not possible to give the correct genealogy of these kings, as they are mostly mentioned only as Changalvas, without any individual names. Nanni Changalva had the prenomen Rajendra Chola but his successors assumed the title of Kulottunga Chola as long as they were the feudatories of the Cholas. The subjugation of the Changalvas by the Cholas seems to have resulted from their defeat at Panasoge by the Chola general, Panchavan Maharaja and the subsequent kings for more than a century bore

Chola prenomens. The following are the names of the Changalva kings who owed allegiance to the Cholas :—

(1) Nanni Changalva Rajendrachola—1034.
(2) .... Name not known.
(3) Mahadeva Changalva Kulottunga Chola—1090.
(4) Udayaditya Changalva Rajendra Chola—1097.
(5) Annadani Changalva Kulottunga Chola—1106.

These kings seem to have ruled the southern and south-eastern part of Coorg at this time. But one of them, Mahadeva Changalva, who ruled towards the end of the 11th century, exercised authority over Suntikoppa Nad of the present Somwarpet taluk; for, there is an inscription on a *Virgal* relating to Mahadeva Changalva at Gargandur village in Suntikoppa Nad. But most of the letters in this inscription have been effaced and it is not possible to decipher the writing.

Hoysalas and Changalvas.

The Chola suzerainty over the Changalvas lasted for a little more than a hundred years from 1004 to 1106. The Cholas were expelled from Mysore by the Hoysalas in 1116 but even before that year, the Hoysalas had brought the Changalvas under their power.

The Changalvas did not easily acquiesce in their subordinate position to the Hoysalas. In about 1104, the Hoysala king Ballala I, led an expedition against the Changalvas and defeated them. In 1106, Annadani Changalva seems to have been shorn of his titles. According to the Belur inscription No. 178, we find a Changalva king helping the Coorg hill chiefs against the Hoysala army in about 1124. But in this war, the Changalvas appear to have been defeated for, in 1130, Hoysala Vishnu Vardhana is described as a submarine fire to the ocean of the Changalva king and in 1139, the Changalva puranika, probably the bard or the poet of the court of the Changalvas, had to apply to the Hoysala king for confirmation of some grant. According to the Nagamangala inscription No. 76, Narasimha I of the Hoysala dynasty is said to have slain a Changalva in battle, and seized his elephants, horses, gold and jewels in 1145. In 1143-44, when Narasimha was engaged in a struggle with the Kadambas, he was harassed by the long dormant Changalva. The latter raised an army and taking advantage of Narasimha's pre-occupations, ravaged villages close to his hilly domain. In the latter part of 1145, the Hoysalas fitted out an expedition to deal with a general insurrection in the Bayal Nad and along the whole length of their southern frontier. The Changalva was completely defeated, himself having been slain, as described in the inscription referred to above. Narasimha I was Hoysala Vishnuvardhana's son. In 1155, Narasimha's general, Chokimayya, brought the Changalva country into subjection to his sovereign. An inscription of 1169 says of Govideva,

the younger brother of Bitti-deva who was a feudatory chief of the Huligere country under the Hoysala king Narasimha, that the wounds he inflicted with his spear on the face of the elephant on which the Changalva king was seated resembled the characters of an inscription recording his valour. Though this is an exaggerated account of the defeat inflicted on the Changalva king, the fact that he was crushingly defeated by the feudatory chief fighting on the side of the Hoysalas is clearly indicated. In the Sorab inscription No. 345, it is stated that in 1171, Sovi-deva, the Kadamba governor of Banavasi, took Changalva and put him in irons, as he had vowed he would do. When Narasimha's son, Prince Ballala, made a tour through the hill countries in the west, Changalva is named as one of the kings who were compelled to pay homage to him. This is stated in the Belur inscription 86. This Changalva king seems to be Mahadeva. He shifted his capital from the plains of Hunsur taluk to Palpare in Kiggatnad of the Coorg district for reasons of safety. At Palpare, he built a fort and tried to assert his independence against the Hosysalas. To this place, Ballala sent an expedition in 1174 under his general, Bettarasa, to punish Mahadeva. Bettarasa marched to Palpare and defeated and killed Mahadeva in a battle and made that place the seat of his own Government. Palpare was a big town in those days.

The constant fights between the Hoysalas and the Changalvas carried through generations show that the Changalvas did not easily submit to the Hoysalas, but were striving to assert their independence at every available opportunity.

The Changalvas, though defeated by Bettarasa, were not completely beaten. Changalva Pemma Virappa, perhaps the son of Mahadeva, attacked Bettarasa at Palpare and was assisted by Badaganada Nandideva Udayadithyadeva of Kuruchi in the south of Coorg and the Kodagas of all the nads. This is the first express mention of the Kodagas that has been met with in inscriptions. In the Palpare battle, Bettarasa was almost defeated but managed to secure a victory through the devotion and bravery of his officers, Madaya Naika and his two sons, who, however, died fighting in the battle. In the Hunsur inscription No. 20, grant of lands to the sons of these valiant fighters who shed their blood in battle, is mentioned. After this reverse, the Changalva king Pemma Virappa, seems to have submitted to the Hoysalas, for the very next year in 1175, Ballala II of the Hoysalas granted the eight rights in the land to one Mayanna in Sirha village of Bitha hobli of the present Sanivarasanthe Nad. The inscription containing this grant is in front of the Rameswara temple in Sirha village. In another inscription found in Kanve hobli of the present Kushalnagar hobli, the Hoysalas have called themselves, along with other titles, Maleraja raja or Maleparolu ganda, which

mean lord of the hill chieftains or king of the chieftains of the *male* country. *Male* means forest land.

The Changalvas appear to have been under the suzerainty of the Hoysalas for a fairly long time. In 1252, the Hoysala king, Someswara, who had taken up his residence at Kannanur or Vikramapura near Srirangam which he had subdued, resolved to revisit the capital at Dwarasamudra, on the death of his Tamil wife. On his way to Dwarasamudra, he came to Ramanathpur in Arkalgud taluk where he had to ford the river Cauvery. Somadeva and Boppa Deva, the two Changalvas who were jointly ruling then, came to receive him at Ramanathpur, which they had rebuilt in 1245. At this time, the Changalvas had changed their capital from Palpare in Kiggatnad to Kodagu Srirangapatna, south of the Cauvery, near Siddapur. As the Changalvas had rebuilt Ramanathpur in 1245, that was probably the boundary of their kingdom. When they changed their capital from Palpare, they must have defeated the Kongalvas of the northern part of Coorg and taken possession of their kingdom and also the present Suntikoppa Nad from the local chieftains. At this time, in Heroor Mudigere Nad of Suntikoppa Nad, there was a petty chieftain called Munivaraditya. In a much effaced inscription in Heroor village, it is stated that the Changalva king improved and decorated a temple built by Munivaraditya in 1220 A.D. In an inscription of his time, is the interesting account of how the brave wife of a servant of the chieftain fought with a man of the southern part who had come there to lift their cattle and overpowered him by tying his legs with a rope. For this act of bravery, it is stated, she was rewarded with a nose ring by the chieftain.

There are three more inscriptions relating to the last two kings of the early Changalva line of rulers. These inscriptions are of the years 1280, 1296 and 1300, respectively. According to these inscriptions, the Changalva king, Mallideva, and his son, Harihara Devarsu, gave grants of land, cattle, etc., to their subjects. As the inscription of 1296 refers to a grant of lands to some persons in Mulloor village of Sanivarsanthe hobli by Changalva Harihara Deva, this king must have been ruling this land at the time. But it will be remembered that these Changalvas were feudatories of the Hoysalas.

The Kongalvas and the Hoysalas.

When the Hoysalas overpowered the Cholas and brought the Changalvas under their domination, the Kongalvas, who were ruling in the northern part of Coorg, *i.e.* in the present Sanivarasanthe hobli and Arkalgud taluk of the Hassan district, were also brought under their domination. But like the Changalvas, the Kongalvas also seem to have resisted the attacks of the Hoysalas. Though they were first subdued by the Hoysalas in 1006, we have Prithvi Maharaja Kongalva fighting with Nripakama of the

Hoysala dynasty in 1022. An inscription of 1022 at Rajendrapura on the fringe of the dominions of the Hoysalas makes mention of this war. This war seems to have continued till 1026, possibly with breaks. In 1026, the same king, Rajendra Chola Prithvi Maharaja Kongalva, marched upon Hoysala Nripakama, and defeated him at a place called Manni. This Kongalva victory over the Hoysalas is recorded in an inscription at Honnur of the year 1026.

But this victory of the Kongalva king seems to have been of short duration. During this time, the Western Chalukyas had become powerful. The Chalukya emperor, Vikramaditya, sent his general, Mallideva, southwards to enlarge his sphere of influence in that quarter. We hear that Mallideva took tribute from the Changalvas, Kongalvas and the Cholas, probably of Henjeru, and also overpowered the garrison of the Hoysalas. The fact that Kongalvas' name did not appear in any inscription for thirty years after the Kongalva victory at Manni shows that the Kongalvas suffered a decline during this period. According to an inscription of the year 980 of the Salivahana era or 1058 of the Christian era, Rajendra Chola Prithvi Kongalva II granted some villages and oil for a basadi (a Jain place of worship) which his father had built at Mullur in Sanivarsanthe hobli. Rajendra Chola Kongalva's father had set up and endowed this basadi in memory of his mother, Pochabbarasi, in 1050 A.D.

Rajendra Chola Prithvi Kongalva II was apparently succeeded by a king whose name was Adataraditya. He had the titles Rajendra Prithvi Kongalva and Tribhuvanamalla Chola Kongalva. He ruled from 1066 to 1100. In 1089, Vikramaditya VI of the Western Chalukya dynasty defeated the Kongalvas along with the Changalvas. In this campaign, Vikramaditya was helped by the Hoysala king, Vinayaditya.

The names of the successors of Adataraditya are not known, but the Kongalva king in the time of Hoysala Vishnuvardhana seems to have attacked the Hoysala forces. But he was defeated by the Hoysala general, Punisha. After this victory, Vishnuvardhana called himself "the burning fire of the forest of the Kongalvas". He married Chandala Devi, the Kongalva princess, in 1115 or 1116 to mark his victory over the Kongalva kings. As was the custom in those days and even later, the vanquished Kongalva king must have concluded a treaty of peace by giving his daughter in marriage to Vishnuvardhana. From this time, the Kongalvas became the feudatories of the Hoysalas just as the Changalvas also had bowed to their superior power.

In 1171, the Kongalvas seem to have risen again against the Hoysalas, for in that year it is recorded that the Hoysalas laid siege to Moltaya Beedu in the Kongalva territory.

The last Kongalva king of whom we have any record is Vira Chola Kongalva. In an inscription of 1176, Vira Chola Kongalva made a grant of the customs dues of the Mullurnad Seventy, the country around Mullur near Sanivarsanthe, in the presence of the Queen mother, Padmala Devi, her daughter, Somala Devi and others. Padmala Devi was the queen of the Hoysala king, Vira Ballala II, and mother of the next king, Narasimha II. In the Belur inscription No. 86, the Kongalva king is mentioned along with the Changalva king as coming to do homage to Vira Ballala

After Vira Chola Kongalva, the Kongalvas do not seem to have ruled long. There is no mention of any Kongalva king after Vira Chola. The Changalvas seem to have defeated the Kongalvas, for in the thirteenth century the Changalvas were in possession of all the territory formerly ruled by the Kongalvas.

The Kongalvas were Jains. They built many basadis and endowed them with lands. Their subjects must also have been Jains. In an inscription dated about 1050 A.D., it is said that one Jakkiyabbe, the wife of Edayya, resolved to obtain 'mukthi' by the performance of Sallekhana and expired in about 1050.

Inscriptions of the Hoysalas.

The struggles of the Changalvas and the Kongalvas against the Hoysalas and the establishment of the supremacy of the latter have been narrated already. The Hoysalas did not rule any part of Coorg themselves directly. But there are four inscriptions in Coorg, directly related to them. The first two of them are of the time of Ballala II dated 1175. Inscription No. 65 of Coorg is at Sirha village in Bilhanad of Sanivarsanthe hobli and records a grant for the god Mallikarjuna of Sirvur. Inscription No. 70 of the Coorg series is at Heggadahalli in the Kanive hobli of the Somwarpet taluk and except the titles of the Hoysala king the rest of the subject matter is found effaced. In this inscription, the Hoysala king is styled as the Maharajaraja and Maleparolugandа. The other two inscriptions are of the time of the Hoysala king, Narasimha III, and are dated 1255 and 1285. These are at Nidtha on the north-eastern frontier of Coorg in the Sanivarasanthe hobli and are *viragals* or memorials to warriors slain in battle. These inscriptions show that the Hoysala kings exercised more than nominal overlordship over the territories in the northern part of Coorg.

During the fourteenth century, when the Muslims from Delhi invaded the south, the Hoysalas and other southern dynasties were swept away. The Hoysala domination over Coorg also ended. At this time, we do not hear of the Changalvas. It is possible that they had sunk into an insignificant power. We find the Changalvas appearing again in the fifteenth century. But before tracing the course of their history, the conditions prevailing in Coorg in the fourteenth century are well worth study.

Coorg as a whole or any part of it does not seem to have been ruled by any powerful line of kings in the fourteenth century. Petty chieftains called Nayakas held sway in different parts of Coorg.

Coorg in the fourteenth century.

At the time of the decline of the Hoysala power, certain chieftains called Dannayakas or Daudanayakas were ruling Gundlupet taluk of south Mysore. One of these Dannayakas, Madhava Dannayaka, who had his capital at Terakanambi in Gundlupet taluk seems to have been ruling Srimangalanad in Coorg. Madhava Dannayaka was the son of Perumala Dannayaka, a great minister under Ballala III. Madhava Dannayaka was followed by his son, Ketaya Dannayaka, ruling in 1321 and by Singeya Dannayaka ruling in 1338. Srimangalanad lay to the north-west of Terakanambi. Curiously enough, in the Gundlupet Inscription No. 11. the Terakanambinad is also referred to as Kudugunad, which is the name of Coorg. It may be that Terakanambinad was also called Kudugunad because it might have included a part of Coorg lying to the north-west of Gundlupet taluk. But in the absence of any inscriptions in Coorg in support of this surmise or any other reliable evidence, it cannot be definitely inferred that the Dannayakas ruled any part of Coorg. But it is said that four Dannayakas who were brothers set forth on expeditions of conquest, in the course of which they overran the country from Devasibetta (the southern part of Coorg) in the south, to Goa in the north and from Satyamangalam in the east to the Bisle ghat in South-Kanara on the west. In these expeditions, it is possible the Dannayakas overran the eastern part of Coorg. But there are no inscriptions in Coorg relating to the Dannayakas.

At about this time, Tavunad and Palur Kuyyangerinad in the western part of Coorg which projected into the South Kanara district and the Cannanore district was ruled by a chief named Melpundi Kunniyarasa who was under a king named Bodharupa Bhagavar. There are two inscriptions in Tamil and Vatteluttu characters, the only ones so written in Coorg, in the temples at Palur in the present Napoklu nad and at Bhagamandala, both in the Mercara taluk. These inscriptions record grants made to temples for the proper conduct of worship by the king Bodharupa Bhagavar Lewis Rice, the author of "Coorg Inscriptions", is of the opinion that Bodharupa Bhagavar might possibly be identified with the ruler of Durga, now known as Maharajadurga in the south-west of the Hassan district. The only support to this theory of Rice is that in an inscription, Mudugere 87, there is the mention of one Bodha Mahadeva on the throne of Durga or Maharajadurga in the time of Bukka Raya in 1371—and Rice thinks that 1371 or thereabouts was the most likely period of the above-mentioned two inscriptions. But from an examination of the letters and the words used in the inscriptions, it seems very improbable that the princes of Durga exercised any sovereignty over Coorg

The last Kongalva king of whom we have any record is Vira Chola Kongalva. In an inscription of 1176, Vira Chola Kongalva made a grant of the customs dues of the Mullurnad Seventy, the country around Mullur near Sanivarsanthe, in the presence of the Queen mother, Padmala Devi, her daughter, Somala Devi and others. Padmala Devi was the queen of the Hoysala king, Vira Ballala II, and mother of the next king, Narasimha II. In the Belur inscription No. 86, the Kongalva king is mentioned along with the Changalva king as coming to do homage to Vira Ballala.

After Vira Chola Kongalva, the Kongalvas do not seem to have ruled long. There is no mention of any Kongalva king after Vira Chola. The Changalvas seem to have defeated the Kongalvas, for in the thirteenth century the Changalvas were in possession of all the territory formerly ruled by the Kongalvas.

The Kongalvas were Jains. They built many basadis and endowed them with lands. Their subjects must also have been Jains. In an inscription dated about 1050 A.D., it is said that one Jakkiyabbe, the wife of Edayya, resolved to obtain 'mukthi' by the performance of Sallekhana and expired in about 1050.

Inscriptions of the Hoysalas.

The struggles of the Changalvas and the Kongalvas against the Hoysalas and the establishment of the supremacy of the latter have been narrated already. The Hoysalas did not rule any part of Coorg themselves directly. But there are four inscriptions in Coorg, directly related to them. The first two of them are of the time of Ballala II dated 1175. Inscription No. 65 of Coorg is at Sirha village in Bilhanad of Sanivarsanthe hobli and records a grant for the god Mallikarjuna of Sirvur. Inscription No. 70 of the Coorg series is at Heggadahalli in the Kanive hobli of the Somwarpet taluk and except the titles of the Hoysala king the rest of the subject matter is found effaced. In this inscription, the Hoysala king is styled as the Maharajaraja and Maleparoluganda. The other two inscriptions are of the time of the Hoysala king, Narasimha III, and are dated 1255 and 1285. These are at Nidtha on the north-eastern frontier of Coorg in the Sanivarasanthe hobli and are *viragals* or memorials to warriors slain in battle. These inscriptions show that the Hoysala kings exercised more than nominal overlordship over the territories in the northern part of Coorg.

During the fourteenth century, when the Muslims from Delhi invaded the south, the Hoysalas and other southern dynasties were swept away. The Hoysala domination over Coorg also ended. At this time, we do not hear of the Changalvas. It is possible that they had sunk into an insignificant power. We find the Changalvas appearing again in the fifteenth century. But before tracing the course of their history, the conditions prevailing in Coorg in the fourteenth century are well worth study.

Coorg in the fourteenth century.

Coorg as a whole or any part of it does not seem to have been ruled by any powerful line of kings in the fourteenth century. Petty chieftains called Nayakas held sway in different parts of Coorg.

At the time of the decline of the Hoysala power, certain chieftains called Dannayakas or Dandanayakas were ruling Gundlupet taluk of south Mysore. One of these Dannayakas, Madhava Dannayaka, who had his capital at Terakanambi in Gundlupet taluk seems to have been ruling Srimangalanad in Coorg. Madhava Dannayaka was the son of Perumala Dannayaka, a great minister under Ballala III. Madhava Dannayaka was followed by his son, Ketaya Dannayaka, ruling in 1321 and by Singeya Dannayaka ruling in 1338. Srimangalanad lay to the north-west of Terakanambi. Curiously enough, in the Gundlupet inscription No. 11, the Terakanambinad is also referred to as Kudugunad, which is the name of Coorg. It may be that Terakanambinad was also called Kudugunad because it might have included a part of Coorg lying to the north-west of Gundlupet taluk. But in the absence of any inscriptions in Coorg in support of this surmise or any other reliable evidence, it cannot be definitely inferred that the Dannayakas ruled any part of Coorg. But it is said that four Dannayakas who were brothers set forth on expeditions of conquest, in the course of which they overran the country from Devasibetta (the southern part of Coorg) in the south, to Goa in the north and from Satyamangalam in the east to the Bisle ghat in South-Kanara on the west. In these expeditions, it is possible the Dannayakas overran the eastern part of Coorg. But there are no inscriptions in Coorg relating to the Dannayakas

At about this time, Tavunad and Palur Kuyyangerinad in the western part of Coorg which projected into the South Kanara district and the Cannanore district was ruled by a chief named Melpundi Kunniyarasa who was under a king named Bodharupa Bhagavar. There are two inscriptions in Tamil and Vatteluttu characters, the only ones so written in Coorg, in the temples at Palur in the present Napoklu nad and at Bhagamandala, both in the Mercara taluk. These inscriptions record grants made to temples for the proper conduct of worship by the king Bodharupa Bhagavar. Lewis Rice, the author of "Coorg Inscriptions", is of the opinion that Bodharupa Bhagavar might possibly be identified with the ruler of Durga, now known as Maharajadurga in the south-west of the Hassan district. The only support to this theory of Rice is that in an inscription, Mudugere 87, there is the mention of one Bodha Mahadeva on the throne of Durga or Maharajadurga in the time of Bukka Raya in 1371—and Rice thinks that 1371 or thereabouts was the most likely period of the above-mentioned two inscriptions. But from an examination of the letters and the words used in the inscriptions, it seems very improbable that the princes of Durga exercised any sovereignty over Coorg

The letters are in Tamil and Vatteluttu which were in use in the Tamil country and Kerala till about the sixteenth century. The words used like Poduval and Amachchan are Tamil words and the verb forms Kandum, Kettum, etc., are Malayalam words. Therefore, it is possible that a king who ruled in north Malabar must have exercised overlordship over Bhagamandalanad and Palur Kuyyangerinad for a short time. The name of the king, Bodharupa Bhagavar, is a Tamil name and that of the subordinate chief Melpundi Kunniyarasu is a Malayalam name. If the Durga princes had made the grant mentioned in the inscriptions, they should have been in Kannada, the language prevailing in Hassan. Moreover, the intervening territory between the Durga principality and Bhagamandalanad also must have belonged to them. But there is no evidence to show that the northern part of Coorg belonged to them. Therefore, it can be presumed that Bodharupa Bhagavar was a king of north Malabar and that he must have had some authority over Tavunad and Palur Kuyyangerinad in the western projection of Coorg.

The suzerainty of Vijayanagar over the northern part of Coorg in the fourteenth century.

The Vijayanagar empire had by this time been established and its power had spread over Coorg as over the other parts of South India. In the fourteenth century, the northern part of Coorg was being ruled by petty Nayakas. These Nayakas seem to have been brought under the influence of the Vijayanagar rulers. In an inscription of 1390, erected near the Chandranatha basadi in Mullur in Sanivarasanthenad, it is mentioned that the Vijayanagar emperor, Harihara II, having read the deed of the original dedication of some lands to Chandranatha basadi by Rajadhiraja Kongalva in memory of his mother, Pochabbarasi, resolved to carry on the worship at the basadi and so granted the Mullurnad with that condition to Gonka Raddi Nayaka, whose bravery had been noticed. The Durga chiefs of Hassan district owed allegiance to the Vijayanagar rulers. The Belur Nayakas, who ruled the southern part of Hassan district and some territory in the north of Coorg, owed their status to Krishna Deva Raya of Vijayanagar; for the Belur family was descended from one Krishnappa Nayaka, the bearer of the *Hadapa* or betel bag, to the Vijayanagara king, Krishna Deva Raya (1509-1529) who gave him the Belur kingdom. The later Changalvas, who had their capital first at Nanjarajapatna in Coorg and then at Periyapatna and the other petty Nayakas of Coorg admitted the supremacy of Vijayanagar.

The later Changalvas or the Changalvas of Nanjarajapatna.

After the disappearance of the early Changalvas at the end of the thirteenth century, they again appear in the fifteenth century. It is not known whether the Changalvas had ruled in Coorg in the fourteenth century with diminished powers; for there is no inscription of the Changalvas of the fourteenth century.

The later Changalvas were Lingayats. The earlier Changalvas also had become Lingayats in the thirteenth century. Their family god was now Mallikarjuna whose temple was on the Bettadapur hill in the Periyapatna taluk. There is no evidence that the later Changalvas were the direct descendants of the earlier Changalvas. It is possible that they might have been a branch of the earlier Changalvas. Mangarasa, in his *Jayanripa Kavya* written in about 1509, says that his father was descended from the minister of the Changalva kings, and that the latter derived their origin from Krishna, thus claiming to be Yadavas. The number of kings of this dynasty or the exact period of their rule are not known definitely. The number of kings that can be gathered from the inscriptions is twelve but these twelve kings did not rule continuously. The following is a list of kings of this line as found from the inscriptions :—

Naga.

Ranga.

Piriyanna.

Nanjaraja 1502-33.

Nanjunda Raja.

Srikanta Raja 1544.

Vira Raja Wodeyar, 1559-80.

Periya Raja Deva Rudragana 1586-1607.

Nanjunda Deva.

Nanja Rajaiya Deva 1612.

Krishna Rajaiya Deva 1617.

Vira Rajaiya 1619-44.

The first three kings of this dynasty ruled from Kodagu Srirangapatna. The fourth of the line, Nanjaraja, founded Nanjarajapatna or Nanjarayapatna, the new capital and named it after himself. Srikanta Raja seems to have been an important person and is given supreme titles in the Hunsur inscription No. 24. There is an inscription in Cherala Srimangala village of Horoor Mudigerinad between Suntikoppa and Chettalli, in which is mentioned that Changalva Srikantarasu made the gift of a land belonging to Bakthana Kote as sarvamanya to Linganna Wodeyaru.

Srikantarasu appears to have been in possession of the lands around Nanjarajapatna as well as the whole of the present Suntikoppanad. In his time, a beautiful Jain basadi was built of stone slabs, stone pillars and stone ceiling and flat roofing in Anjangeri Bettageri village near Suntikoppa. Jains seem to have been a flourishing community round about Suntikoppa at that time. The basadi stands even now in solitary grandeur in the middle of a small jungle.

Among Srikanta Raja's successors, Periya Raja Deva was a famous king. He re-built Singapatna on the eastern frontier of his principality and encouraged merchants to settle there. He renamed the place as Periyapatna after himself. He then seems to have shifted his capital to Periyapatna.

There is an inscription at Ganagur recording the grant of land by Periya Raja Rudragana at Ganagur in order that his father and mother and fore-fathers might attain to a station in Kailasa. This grant of land at Ganagur indicates that this part of Coorg had belonged to the Changalvas at that time.

These Changalvas were subordinate to the Vijayanagara emperors who had appointed viceroys to represent them at Srirangapatna, Vellore, Guindy, Madurai and other places. The Vijayanagara empire had fallen by Periya Raja's time. But there still remained a viceroy at Srirangapatna named Tirumala Raja II representing Venkataraja I of Penukonda. The Vijayanagara rulers had shifted their seat of government from Vijayanagara to Penukonda after their defeat at the hands of the Sultans of the Deccan. It is said in the Hunsur inscription No. 36 that Tirumala Raja, the viceroy at Srirangapatna, made a grant of the Malalavadi country in Hunsur taluk in 1607 to Periya Raja Rudragana "in order that the worship of the God Annadani Mallikarjuna should not fail as long as the Nanjarajapatna kings of the Changalva family continued". At this time, Tirumala Raja also exempted those villages from paying a tax called pagudi tax to his government at Srirangapatna.

During Periya Raja's time, a prince of the Ikkeri dynasty of Shimoga district came to Coorg and founded the Haleri dynasty of kings. The history of the Haleri kings will be dealt with in detail in the future sections. After the death of Periya Raja, four kings ruled in Periyapatna. These kings had only a small strip of territory round about Nanjarayapatna on the eastern frontier of Coorg under them, their kingdom extending a little beyond Periyapatna on the east. In 1644, Vira Raja, the last of the Changalvas, was ruling in Periyapatna His father Nanjaraja, though alive, was old and had given up the reins of government in favour of his son. In the same year, Kanthirava Narasa Raja Wodeyar of Mysore laid siege to Periyapatna and Vira Raja fell in its defence. But before he fell, he put his wives and children to death seeing that his situation was desperate. Meanwhile, his aged father, Nanjaraja, had gone to Haleri, to ask for military assistance from Muddu Raja of Coorg against the Mysore ruler. The Changalvas of Periyapatna and the Haleri kings were cousins. But before Muddu Raja of Coorg could go to the assistance of Vira Raja, the Mysore forces had captured Periyapatna. Muddu Raja kept the aged Nanjaraja as his guest at Nanjarajapatna in Coorg. The later Changalva line thus became extinct with the death of

Vira Raja at Periyapatna and of Nanja Raja at Nanjarajapatna a few years later.

The Nayakas of Belur and their rule over the northern part of Coorg.

The Nayakas of Belur, who were the rulers of the western parts of the present Hassan district, had also the northern part of Coorg under their rule for about one hundred years in the seventeenth century. A copper plate inscription records the grant of the village of Kattepura, with Hirumanahalli in the extreme north of the Sanivarasanthe hobli to a Brahmin in 1693 A.D. by Krishnappa Nayaka IV. In about 1755, Krishnappa Nayaka VI granted an elephant and the village of Mudravalli in the same hobli as an offering to a great yogi named Kaivalya. Again Coorg inscription 47 of the following year states that the same Krishnappa Nayaka made a grant of the village rent to a gowda of Malambi in Sanivarsanthe hobli.

In about 1700, Dodda Virappa Wodeyar occupied the possessions of the Belur Nayakas in Sanivarsanthe hobli. Sanivarsanthe hobli was called Yelusaviraseeme in those days, probably because this part of Coorg was yielding a revenue of seven thousand varahas. A little before the conquest of Yelusaviraseeme by Dodda Virappa Wodeyar, the remaining part of the Belur Nayakas' principality had been conquered by Chikka Deva Raja Wodeyar of Mysore. But on the conclusion of peace in 1694, six nads of Manjarabad were restored to the Belur chiefs. But after the occupation of this territory by the Coorg Raja, the rule of the Belur Nayakas ceased in the northern part of Coorg.

The petty Nayakas of Coorg.

In the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, Coorg, excepting the eastern and the northern parts of it, was being ruled by petty chiefs called Nayakas. The eastern part was ruled by the Changalvas and the northern part first by the Dandanayakas of the Vijayanagara rulers and then by the Belur Nayakas. Ferishta, the Muslim historian of the Deccan, says that at the end of the sixteenth century, Coorg proper was governed by its own chiefs, called Nayakas, and that they admitted the supremacy of the Vijayanagara rulers. These Nayakas were at constant feud with one another. According to tradition, Coorg was then divided into twelve divisions called *Kombus* and thirty-five *nads*. The names of these Nayakas or the places where they were in power are not known except in the case of four or five of them. When the Haleri Rajas established their rule in Coorg, they were removed from power in the course of a hundred years from the commencement of the rule of the Haleri kings. The extinction of these Nayakas will be dealt with while narrating the history of the Haleri kings.

The Haleri Rajas of Coorg.

The constant feuds of the Nayakas in Coorg opened the way for a prince of the Ikkeri or Bednur family of kings to come to Coorg and establish his kingdom here. After the fall of the

Vijayanagara empire in 1565, the rulers of Ikkeri, who were dependent on Vijayanagara along with others, assumed independence The sixth prince of the Ikkeri family, Venkatappa Nayaka I, extended his kingdom in the west and the south. His kingdom had spread from Honnavar in North Kanara to the Chandragiri river in the present Cannanore district of Kerala State. In South Kanara, his rule extended from the coast to the foot of the western ghats. In the course of his military campaign in South Kanara, a prince of his family, who later established himself at Haleri, must have accompanied him. He must have known the semi-anarchical state in Coorg with its Nayakas fighting with one another. It is also possible that he had information of the conditions in Coorg from the Changalvas of Periyapatna, for the rulers of Coorg and the Changalvas of Periyapatna were cousins and kinsmen. It is highly improbable that a prince from Ikkeri came to Coorg and established himself as king without previously acquainting himself with the conditions prevailing there at that time. The fact that the Haleri rulers of Coorg had kinship with the Ikkeri Nayaks has been recorded in 'Rajendraname', a history of the Haleri princes from about 1600 to 1807 compiled by order of Dodda Vira Rajendra Wodeyar, the greatest of the Haleri dynasty. After his conquest of Bednur, Haider Ali claimed sovereignty over the Haleri Rajas of Coorg on the ground that the Haleri Rajas were subordinate to the Ikkeri or Bednur royal family.

Whatever may have been the circumstances that induced the Ikkeri prince to come to Coorg and establish his kingdom there, it is clear that a prince of the Ikkeri family in the Shimoga district established himself at Haleri to the north of Mercara. At first, he assumed the pious garb of a jangama or Lingayat priest and gained a considerable influence over the people of the surrounding areas. The people of the surrounding nads voluntarily offered him some paddy directly from their threshing yard. Therefore this paddy was called *dhuli batta* or the dusty grain from the threshing yard. After some time, he gained more influence over the people of those nads and felt that he could exercise some authority over them. Then, instead of the voluntary offering of *dhuli batta* he imposed upon the people a regular tax of one and a half bhutty (120 seers) of rice and nine annas eight pies in cash per house per annum. Next, he required alternate parties of the people to guard his house on the Haleri farm. As the front verandah of the house was called chawadi, the people who guarded the house in front of the chawadi were called chawadigars. This name, chawadigar, was retained for the Raja's troops after the prince assumed the kingship over Coorg and continued throughout the reign of the Haleri kings in Coorg.

As this prince gathered more followers and strength, he openly declared himself and was acknowledged as the ruler of Haleri and of the surrounding nads. Thereafter, he proceeded to subdue the

Nayakas of Coorg. At this time, Karanembau, Nayaka of Padinalknad and Thavunad, was powerful among the Nayakas of Coorg. After some resistance, he submitted to the Haleri prince and so did the others under condition that they should receive three-fourths of the revenue of their nads and pay the remaining one-fourth to the Haleri prince. But the increasing power of the Haleri princes soon threatened the safety of the Coorg Nayakas, who were either put to death or driven out of the country within a few years and the whole country of the present district of Coorg was brought under the Haleri government.

The Haleri Rajas of Coorg were Lingayats by faith and spoke Kannada. Though the progenitor of this dynasty of Rajas was a prince of Ikkeri, he and his successors soon identified themselves with the interests of Coorg and the people were loyal to them. They were thirteen in number, including a queen who had a short-lived reign while she was a girl in her teens. They claimed to be of the Chandravamsa or Lunar race, of the Bharadwaja gotra, Aswalayana sutra and Rik Sakha. The titles they assumed were *rajadhiraja, raja-parameswara, praudhapratapa, apratima vira narapati,* seated on the jewelled throne of the Kodagu samsthana, etc.

The name of the founder of this dynasty was Vira Raja. But when exactly he came to Haleri or how long he ruled there is not known. The authority for the history of the Haleri Rajas of Coorg from the beginning of the dynasty up to 1807 is the 'Rajendraname' or the history of the Haleri Rajas got written by the orders of the greatest prince of that line, Dodda Vira Rajendra Wodeyar. In this book, only the names of the first two Rajas of this dynasty, Vira Raja and Appaji Raja, are given without any dates, and the first king we know of having ruled at Haleri at any certain time is Muddu Raja, the son of Appaji Raja and the grandson of Vira Raja and who was said to be reigning at Haleri in 1633. It is not known when he ascended the throne.

It is said in the history of the Ikkeri Nayakas that when Venkatappa Nayaka I invaded South Kanara and defeated the chieftains there, he visited the pilgrim centre of Subramanya at the foot of the western ghats. From there he sent a force to Coorg to demand tribute from the Raja of Coorg. The Raja, probably Vira Raja, submitted to Venkatappa Nayaka and paid him the tribute acknowledging his over-lordship.

Subsequently, when Virabhadra Nayaka was on the throne of Ikkeri, his general, Sivappa Nayaka, invaded Malabar or Malayalam, corresponding to the present territory between Nileshwar and Cannanore. The Coorg Raja, probably Appaji Raja, the second of the line of Haleri kings, went to the assistance of the Malabar prince, but was beaten and put to flight. The Ikkeri

troops then entered Coorg, and plundering the territory took the Raja prisoner. The Raja's wife seeking the mediation of Krishnappa Nayaka of Belur, came to the presence of the conqueror and begged for her husband's release from custody. Sivappa Nayaka released the Coorg Raja and restored to him his kingdom on condition of his paying a tribute and engaging never again to take up arms against the Bednur State and undertaking to assist it in all offensive and defensive wars.

Muddu Raja I.

Muddu Raja I, as has been said before, was ruling at Haleri in 1633. In the time of Sivappa Nayaka, the successor of Virabhadra Nayaka on the throne of Bednur, Muddu Raja paid him a visit in his capital. After staying at Bednur as the guest of the Bednur prince, when Muddu Raja was about to return to his own country, Sivappa Nayaka requested him to ask some favour, but Muddu Raja replied that he had all he wanted. When Sivappa Nayaka pressed him again to ask for some favour, Muddu Raja stated that the only thing he lacked was a son who might succeed him. Then, Sivappa Nayaka prayed to his family deity, Rameswara of Keladi, and caused a golden lamp to be made. He gave it to the Raja of Coorg enjoining him to maintain the flame for a year and a day, by which time he should be blessed with offspring. Muddu Raja took the lamp and returned to Coorg. He obeyed the injunctions given to him by Sivappa Nayaka and true to the words of the latter, he was blessed with a son before the end of the year.

Sivappa Nayaka was highly pleased to receive the news of the birth of a son to Muddu Raja as well as the presents sent by the Coorg Raja on this occasion and in token of his pleasure bestowed a few villages near Sullia in South Kanara as a gift upon the newborn child to provide him with milk. As milk is also known as Amrita, the villages given to provide milk to the child were called Amrita magane (magane is a group of villages in South Kanara) which word in course of time got corrupted into Amaramagane. This land below the western ghats was in possession of the Coorg rajas till the deposition of the last Raja in 1834.

Muddu Raja changed his capital from Haleri to Madikeri or Mercara in 1681. There he built a mud fort and a palace in 1681. He selected an elevated place on a hill for his fort and capital on account of its central and not easily accessible position. When the capital was shifted there, the Raja's guards and officers had their residences round about the fort and soon a small town grew. As the fort and the palace were built by Muddu Raja, the whole place including the town was called Muddu Raja Keri which in course of time changed into Madikeri and later anglicised to Mercara.

Muddu Raja was said to be a popular king. While he was touring in his little country, he was always anxious to enquire into the welfare of his subjects.

In the time of Muddu Raja, as has been described while narrating the history of the later Changalvas, Ranadhira Kanteerava Raja Wodeyar of Mysore attacked the Changalva Raja, Vira Raja, at Periyapatna. At that time, as Vira Raja's forces were not strong enough to repel the attack of the Mysore forces, Vira Raja's father, Nanja Raja or Nanjunda Raja, came to Muddu Raja at Haleri to ask for his assistance. But before Muddu Raja could go to the assistance of Vira Raja, the Mysore forces captured Periyapatna and Vira Raja fell fighting in its defence. Then, Muddu Raja built a small palace for the aged Nanja Raja at Nanjarajapatna near the river Cauvery. He built also a Virabhadra temple, erected another stone temple over the Linga called Nanjundeswara and after Nanja Raja's death laid him in a grave constructed in front of the Nanjundeswara temple. He also made a grant of some lands for the performance of religious services in the temple.

Towards the end of his reign, Muddu Raja paid a visit to Rani Chennammaji of Bednur at Subramanya in South Kanara, when the Rani came to that sacred shrine and gave valuable presents to her. The Rani also gave Muddu Raja presents in return.

Muddu Raja died in 1687 after a long and prosperous reign of fifty-four years. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Dodda Virappa.

Doddavirappa Wodeyar 1687-1736.

Doddavirappa Wodeyar was a strong king. A few years after he ascended the throne, Chikka Devaraja Wodeyar of Mysore sent an army to conquer Coorg. His army entered Coorg from the south-east and passing through Balele, a village within Coorg near the border, encamped on the plain of Palpare, about five miles to the south-west of Balele. Receiving intelligence of the arrival of the Mysore army at Palpare, Doddavirappa marched with his army at night and before day-break fell upon the Mysore forces. The Mysore forces were defeated and as described by the chronicler of the Coorg Rajas' history, fifteen thousand men including seventy-seven officers were slain in the battle. When the rest fled back into Mysore, they were pursued by the Coorg Raja's forces and it is said that in the Palpare battle and in the flight after the battle, three hundred and sixty nobles, each of whom had the privilege of using a palanquin, perished. The Coorg Raja pursued them up to Hampapura in Heggadadevanakote taluk and there erected a stone containing some small figures in base relief as a monument to his victory and to mark the new

boundary of his dominions. It was but for a short time, however, that he retained these acquisitions.

As the Mysore forces were entering Coorg from the south-east of Coorg, as narrated above, Viravarma Raja of Kotangadi, a small principality in North Malabar, receiving intelligence of the entry of the Mysore troops, ascended the ghats with an army of 5,000 Nair sepoys and encamped in a wooden fort at Tomara, a village above the ghats touching the Malabar border. Hearing of the encampment of the Nairs at Tomara, Doddavirappa sent in advance a body of fifteen hundred men to check their onward march and after his decisive victory over the Mysore forces, himself went with a large force to Tomara. There he made a spirited attack, fell upon the entrenched camp of Viravarma Raja and destroyed him and his army.

After some time, *i.e.*, between 1690 and 1694, Chikka Deva Raja of Mysore attacked the Belur Nayaka's territory in Hassan district. Doddavirappa of Coorg, desirous of obtaining a share of spoil for himself in the Belur Nayakas' territory, sent a force northward and seized Yelusaviraseeme which was then included in the principality of the Belur Nayakas. The Mysore Raja having occupied most of the Nayaka's country, demanded Yelusavira district from the Coorg Raja. But little disposed to restore what he could claim with as good a right as Chikka Deva Raja, Doddavirappa did not comply and a predatory warfare ensued. After a short time, both the Rajas came to a compromise by which the Coorg Raja was allowed to retain the district, but to pay a portion of the revenue from the district, to the Mysore Raja. On this account, the Yelusavira district received the name of Itterige seeme or country paying revenue to two parties.

But Doddavirappa was not destined to rule in peace for long after this. In about 1730, Somashekara Nayaka of Ikkeri or Bednur, who was already in possession of South Kanara upto the present Nileshwar in Kerala State, invaded the territories of the Raja of Chirakal to the north of Cannanore. The territories of the Chirakal Raja were very fertile. The Raja, being a petty prince, was no match for Somashekara Nayaka. Therefore, knowing that Doddavirappa of Coorg and Somashekara Nayaka of Ikkeri were kinsmen, he appealed to Doddavirappa to intercede on his behalf with Somashekara Nayaka and to save his country from conquest. Doddavirappa persuaded Somashekara Nayaka to stop fighting with Ravi Varma and to give him back the territories conquered from him. Somashekara Nayaka, however, refused to listen to the proposals of the Coorg Raja, pleading the expense of the war in men and money. At last, he yielded so far as to agree to evacuate the country on payment of eighteen lakhs of rupees. Ravi Varma promised to pay this amount and requested Doddavirappa to stand security. Somashekara Nayaka

withdrew his army from the Chirakal Raja's territory and returned to his kingdom. While returning, he halted for some days at Subramanya, where the Coorg Raja paid him a state visit.

The Raja of Chirakal soon paid the first instalment of nine lakhs of rupees, but when the time for the payment of the second and the final instalment came, he treated the men sent by the Coorg Raja most insolently. Doddavirappa forthwith despatched a force of five thousand Coorgs under his general, Bonira Muthanna, to ask for the immediate payment of the amount. The Chirakal Raja formed a scheme to destroy the Coorg forces with their general. The news of this evil design reached Ali Raja of Cannanore, who was a friend of Doddavirappa. Immediately, he sent word to Bonira Muthanna to leave Chirakal. The same night Bonira Muthanna marched direct to Cannanore, defeating a body of Chirakal troops who opposed his passage. Meanwhile, the Raja of Chirakal blocked all the passages to Coorg from his dominions by keeping his men there. Therefore, the Coorg forces reached Kumbala, a port near Mangalore in Ikkeri Nayaka's possession and from there returned to Coorg. Doddavirappa does not seem to have taken any retaliatory action against the Chirakal Raja for his treacherous behaviour. He had paid the nine lakhs of rupees first paid by Ravi Varma to Somashekara Nayaka before this event and at this time he paid the remaining nine lakhs of rupees from his own treasury to keep his honour. Somashekara Nayaka expressed his indignation at the Malabar prince having played false to Doddavirappa and sympathised with him. Before his withdrawal from the Chirakal Raja's territory at the insistence of the Coorg Raja, he had warned him not to have any faith in the words of the Malabar prince and that the latter was sure to prove false to his words. The later happenings showed that Somashekara Nayaka was right. In appreciation of Doddavirappa's keeping up his promise of payment of money to him on behalf of Ravi Varma, Somashekara Nayaka confirmed the grant of some villages near Sullia in South Kanara, which his father had made to Doddavirappa's father. At the same time, Doddavirappa, in order to secure a regular supply of coconuts for the tutelary goddess, Cauvery, at Talakaveri and Bhagamandala, purchased the Sullia magane with the money taken from the treasury of the Talakaveri temple.

Sullia magane with Amara magane was known as Amara-Sullia magane and this remained a part of the territory of the Coorg Rajas till 1834.

In between the wars, Doddavirappa suppressed the turbulent Nayakas of Coorg, like Utta Nayaka of Beppu Nad, Achchu Nayaka of Anjigeri Nad and Kolla-Kongi Nayaka of Kaikadu. He dug deep trenches called 'Aramane Kadangas' (palace trenches) to demarcate the boundaries of different nads in his

kingdom and strengthened the fortifications. In his time, eight Coorg headmen called Desha Thakkas were nominated from among the Coorg families to look into and settle the social and other disputes among the Coorgs. Coorg proper, *i.e.*, from Kiggatnad in the south to a few miles beyond Mercara in the north, was divided into four big nads and two Coorg headmen for each of these four nads were nominated to supervise the proper observance of their social and religious customs. These headmanships or Thakkame were hereditary.

Doddavirappa evinced, throughout his long and vigorous reign, an unconquerable spirit and though surrounded by powerful neighbours, neither the number nor the strength of his enemies seems to have affected his courage or damped his enterprise. He died in 1736, when he was 78 years old. Two of his wives ascended the funeral pyre with the dead body of the Raja.

Chikkavirappa Wodeyar 1736-1766.

Chikkavirappa Wodeyar, (1736-1766) grand-son of Doddavirappa Wodeyar, succeeded in 1736. His father Appaji Raja, the only son of Doddavirappa, had caused the death by suicide of his wife at the instigation of his favourite mistress and therefore had been thrown into prison by Doddavirappa. Appaji Raja's only son, Chikkavirappa, also shared the confinement of his father. After Appaji Raja died in prison, languishing there for twelve years, Chikkavirappa was released in 1730 from prison at the entreaties of some leading men of Coorg who were in the confidence of Doddavirappa. The same year, Chikkavirappa was anointed successor to Doddavirappa and, after the latter's death, assumed full authority. As his early years were clouded by misfortune, he was sickly and subject to nervous complaints. Naturally, his reign was a weak one.

During his reign, Haidar Ali, a foujdar under the Raja of Mysore, rose to power by his military prowess and adventurous spirit and succeeded in usurping the authority of the Raja after confining him in his own palace. Then he began a campaign of conquest by bringing under his sovereignty the neighbouring independent principalities. First, he took Bednur in March, 1763, and added it to the Mysore territory. As the Bednur Nayakas had exercised overlordship over Coorg, Haidar Ali considered himself the liege lord of Coorg also and wanted the Raja of Coorg to submit to him.

Chikkavirappa was a god-fearing and pious man. He made a gift in 1756 of the village, Kodali Mande, in Arkalgud taluk, which had then belonged to him as sarvamanya to the Jagadguru of Sringeri Mutt to provide for the special worship of the deities Vidyashankara, Sharadambike and Chandramouleshwara Swamy and for the feeding of the Brahmins on Vijayadashami Day. Sringeri Mutt must have lost this gift of land when Haidar Ali

demanded the Mysore part of the Yelusaviraseeme or the Itterige or double-tax land from Chikkavirappa and took possession of it.

As a preliminary step, Haidar Ali demanded the three villages of Bemmathi, Mallipattana and Hosur in lieu of the revenue which the Coorg Raja was paying to the Mysore Raja in accordance with the terms of the agreement concluded between Doddavirappa and Chikkadevaraja Wodeyar. Unwilling to provoke so powerful an opponent, Chikkavirappa yielded to Haidar's demand and ceded them to Mysore. But Haidar Ali, not satisfied with their cession, soon found a pretext for breaking with the Coorg Raja and sent an army to Coorg in 1765 under Fazal Ulla Khan. Many battles were fought on the north-eastern frontier. At last, the Mysore army was defeated, and Haidar Ali offered to the Raja of Coorg peace and the Uchchangi district contiguous to the northern frontier of Coorg for 300,000 rupees. Chikkavirappa acceded to the proposal. He paid a portion of the sum and, as per the agreement entered into with Haidar Ali's officers, sent his general Muthanna's younger brother, Chermanna, as hostage for the remaining amount. But before the stipulations on the part of the Muhammadan commander were executed, the Raja of Coorg died.

Muddu Raja and Muddayya Raja 1766-1770.

Chikkavirappa died without children and hence the line of Doddavirappa became extinct. Doddavirappa's father, Muddu Raja, had two sons besides Doddavirappa. His second son had settled at Haleri and the third son at Horamale, four miles west of Mercara. After the death of Chikkavirappa without children to succeed him, Muddu Raja and Muddayya Raja, the representatives of the Haleri and Horamale royal families, ruled Coorg together for about four years, in harmony. They immediately demanded from Haidar Ali the cession of Uchchangi as per the treaty made between Chikkavirappa and Haidar Ali, but Haidar Ali eluded the fulfilment of the treaty on the plea that Chikkavirappa had died and therefore he could not give Uchchangi unless the full amount was paid. After protracted and fruitless negotiations, the Coorg Rajas recommenced hostilities. Linga Raja, the younger brother of Muddu Raja, attacked Fazal Ulla Khan near the Yelusavira district and defeated him in a few engagements. When Fazal Ulla Khan attempted to retire towards Mangalore by the Bisle ghat, Linga Raja out-marched and faced him again and completely routed his army. The whole camp, treasure, guns and ammunition, fell into the hands of the Coorgs. Haidar Ali then proposed peace in the year 1768 and in lieu of the Uchchangi country, gave up the districts of Panje and Bellare in return for the sum of 75,000 rupees already paid to his general, and fixed the boundary between Mysore and Coorg at the river Sarve. Thus, peace was established for a while in 1768.

Devappa Raja.

In 1770, both Muddu Raja and Muddayya Raja died within an interval of a few months. Then arose a dispute for the succession to the Coorg throne. Linga Raja, the younger brother of Muddu Raja, wished to place his nephew, Appaji Raja, on the throne, while Mallappa Arasu, son of Muddayya Raja of Horamale, proposed his own son, Devappa Raja, as successor to the throne of Coorg. A fatal family dispute arose, which led the way to foreign intervention and consequent subjection. The Horamale family was more powerful and hence Devappa Raja became the ruler. Linga Raja, being unable to enforce his claims, left the country with his son, Viraraja, and his nephew, Appaji Raja, to seek the aid of Haidar Ali. Haidar Ali was eager to seize this opportunity to intervene in the affairs of Coorg. But he could not immediately come to the assistance of Linga Raja as he had to meet an attack of the Mahrattas.

After the departure of the Mahrattas, there was a severe famine in Mysore caused by their depredations. In order to provide some relief to the people of Mysore, Linga Raja suggested an expedition into Coorg, where plenty of grain could be found. Taking his advice, Haidar marched his army into Coorg in 1773 by way of Arkalgud and Betta Kanive, but was repulsed with loss in Yedavanad. Linga Raja wrote to his friends in Coorg not to put up a fight against Haidar. The partisans of Linga Raja suggested the entry of the Mysore army through Balele in Kiggatnad. When the Mysore army passed the frontier at Balele, a large number of Coorgs joined Linga Raja who accompanied the Mysore army. Linga Raja marched without opposition to Mercara, the capital.

At the approach of the Mysore army led by Linga Raja, Devappa Raja fled to north Malabar and sought refuge with the Raja of Kotangadi. But instead of sheltering the Coorg Raja, the Raja of Kote threatened to put him to death to atone for the death of his ancestor at Tomara, if he did not redeem himself with a ransom. The hapless refugee paid what little money he had with him but, feeling insecure with Kote Raja, fled in disguise with only four faithful attendants. He intended to escape to the Mahratta country, but on his way he was seized by Haidar Ali's people at Harihar near the southern Mahratta frontier and was brought to Srirangapatna. His family was already in prison at Srirangapatna and when Devappa Raja was brought there, he was murdered together with his whole family by Haidar Ali. Thus ended the Horamale branch of the Coorg royal family.

Linga Raja I 1775-1780.

Haidar Ali now offered to restore Coorg to Linga Raja if he paid the expenses of the expedition, which of course, amounted to a very large sum. Linga Raja declared that the resources of the country were exhausted and Haidar Ali consented to receive an annual payment of 24,000 rupees to cover his expenses. Linga

Raja agreed to pay this amount annually on condition of Haidar Ali assisting him in the recovery of the Wynad as far as the village of Kalpatti from the Raja of Kote, who had possessed himself of that part of Coorg. After some enquiries as to whether Linga Raja's claim over that portion of Wynad was just, Haidar Ali promised to assist him. Thereupon, Linga Raja invaded the Wynad and left a garrison of 2,000 men there. Returning from Kalpatti, Linga Raja succeeded to the throne of Coorg upon which he had set up his cousin, Appaji Raja, before he went to Wynad. While he was at Wynad, Appaji Raja had died making room for Linga Raja. Appaji Raja's rule seems to have been nominal.

The Wynad garrison posted at Kalpatti by Linga Raja kept its ground for five years from 1774 to 1779. In the year 1779, however, it was forced to retreat, being short of provisions and closely pressed by the Raja of Kote. When Linga Raja received this disagreeable news, he despatched a body of 2,000 Coorgs to the Wynad headed by his two nephews. But on their way, they were intercepted by the Raja of Kote and were defeated. In the fight, one of the princes was slain and the other was taken prisoner. The latter was also put to death by the orders of the same Raja in a place called Kadanurkula in the territories of the Raja of Kote.

Rule of Haidar Ali and Tippu Sultan in Coorg 1780-89.

Linga Raja I died in the beginning of 1780. His sons, Virarajendra and Linga Rajendra, being of tender age, Haidar Ali assumed entire possession of Coorg, under the pretence of being guardian to the Coorg princes until they came of age. He wanted some pretext to occupy Coorg. Meanwhile, the princes were to reside in the fort of Goruru in Hassan district with their mother, sisters and cousins. He appointed a Brahmin, Subbarasayya, formerly Karnika or minister in charge of the accounts of the Raja, as Amaldar of Coorg and he strengthened the Mercara fort and stationed a Musalman garrison there.

The Coorgs were enraged at Haidar Ali's taking possession of Coorg and removing the princes to a place outside Coorg and also appointing the former Raja's Karnika as the Amaldar of Coorg. They broke out in open rebellion in 1782 against Haidar Ali's rule in Coorg and on hearing that Haidar Ali had marched for the Carnatic to oppose the British army under Sir Eyre Coote, they drove the garrison out of the country and proclaimed their independence.

The death of Haidar Ali the same year prevented an immediate attack on Coorg by his men, but Tippu Sultan, Haidar Ali's son, was fully determined on the reconquest of Coorg. He brought the family of the Coorg Raja from Goruru to Periyapatna and kept them under watch. Meanwhile, the second Mysore war had been continuing and Tippu Sultan captured Mangalore

on the west coast in 1784. On his way from Mangalore to his capital at Srirangapatna in 1785, he came to Coorg and offered peace and amnesty to the Coorgs on condition that they remained loyal to him. He rebuilt the mud fort at Mercara with stones, (the present fort of Mercara) doubtless for the purpose of securing more effectually his conquests, and agreeably to his system of nomenclature, he set aside the former name given to it by the Rajas, substituting in its place the Muslim appellation of Zafarabad. He kept a garrison in the fort under Jaffar Kuli Baig and appointed him as Killedar or the commandant of the fort. But scarcely had he left the country, when the Coorgs again took up arms in 1785 and repossessed themselves of their native hills. A force sent under his general Zain-ul-ab--i-din, to put them down was driven back, on which Tippu Sultan himself entered Coorg with an army and reached Mercara with but little loss. He effected an amicable settlement with the Coorgs. Then he went with his army to Tavunad or Bhagamandala nad and halted at Devatuparambu plain. Here he invited most of the Coorgs, as if to negotiate terms of peace with them. On their arrival, he seized them and their families and sent them to Srirangapatna where he circumcised them. It is said that about 70,000 persons were thus carried from Coorg. But Coorg, being a hilly country full of forests, could not have had that much of population and hence the number of people carried to Srirangapatna must have been much smaller than given in the chronicles written by the European authors. Tippu Sultan then sent into depopulated Coorg Musalmans from Mysore and gave to them the lands and the slaves of the exiles besides a supply of labourers from Adoni. These Musalmans were to search out and slay all such Coorgs as might have escaped his vengeance. Such was Tippu Sultan's anger against the Coorgs. He built forts at Kushalnagar, Bhagamandala and Beppunad and strengthened the existing fort at Mercara. In all these forts, he kept Musalman garrisons. He appointed Nagappayya, the younger brother of the Amaldar Subbarasayya, to grant agricultural loans and other necessaries to the newly settled raiyats from outside and to see that they cultivated their lands. But instead of settling the new raiyats on the land, Nagappayya allowed those raiyats to leave the country after taking bribes from them. This act of Nagappayya came to the notice of Tippu Sultan and Nagappayya was ordered to be hanged. Getting intelligence of the Sultan's order, Nagappayya fled to the Kote Raja in Malabar. The Kote Raja gave him fifty Nairs under one, Payyatu Chandu, and Nagappayya returned with them to Coorg and collecting about a hundred troops and others who had taken shelter in the jungles, began to plunder the houses of the Adoni raiyats.

Virarajendra who was kept in the Periyapatna fort with his brothers and wives, received intelligence of the state of affairs in his principality. One Thursday night, in the dark fortnight

on the 22nd day of Margashira, about the middle of December 1788, assisted by some of his faithful friends of Coorg, Virarajendra Wodeyar effected his escape with his family from Periyapatna after a confinement of six years. Nagappayya informed the Raja of Kote that Virarajendra had returned to Coorg. The Raja of Kote desired Nagappayya to allure Viraraja to his territory. Viraraja was inveigled beyond the Coorg frontier to the Kote Raja's territory and there he fell into the power of Vira Varma, who forced Viraraja to cede, as an atonement for the death of his ancestor who was slain at Tomara, the site of a fort at that place and to give up for ever three valuable and extensive nads, *viz.*, Kiggatnad, Ammatnad and Yedenalknad. Complying under the pressure of circumstances, Virarajendra purchased his freedom and returned to Coorg. A fortnight after, Vira Varma of Kote ascended the ghats to take possession of the ceded nads. Now came Virarajendra's turn. With a number of Coorgs, who had rallied round their chief, he surrounded the camp of the Kote Raja, and forced him not only to return the document extorted at Arala, but also to renounce every claim to the Wynad country.

Virarajendra now sallied forth at the head of his army to fight the garrisons stationed in Coorg by Tippu Sultan and to drive away the Musalman settlers in Coorg. Successful plundering expeditions into the Sultan's dominions were carried out at the same time and large supplies of cattle and grain were carried away into Coorg and divided among his adherents. Virarajendra established his camp at Siddeshwara near the Mysore border.

Tippu Sultan, irritated by these daring incursions into his territories, ordered a large force under the command of Gulam Ali into Coorg. The Mysore army entered the country by way of Siddeshwara. The Coorg Raja disputed every inch of ground and defended every pass, but was unable to beat off the strong force of the invaders. The captains of Tippu Sultan took up several strong positions in the heart of the country, seized all they could—grain, cattle, men, women and children, and burnt every house they had pillaged. The Raja of Chirakal sent a force of Nairs to the assistance of the Musalmans. Being well acquainted with the localities of the Coorg hills, these treacherous neighbours showed the Sultan's men the way to the retreats of the Coorgs. At Padinalknad in the western part of Coorg, a serious combat took place between the Coorgs and the Chirakal troops. The latter being worsted, they set fire to the temple at Padinalknad and fled. The Coorgs encouraged by their success, rose to a man and harassed the Mysore troops so much, that Gulam Ali was forced to confine himself to the more open parts of the country, where he carried fire and sword into the villages which he could attack with safety. Virarajendra would have succumbed to the superiority in numbers and discipline of the Mysore

armies, had not a revolt of the Malayalam Rajas compelled the Sultan to order Gulam Ali with his army to the western coast. Gulam Ali was not, however, permitted to leave Coorg unmolested. He was fiercely attacked at the Kodantur pass and suffered severe losses. Meanwhile, Tippu Sultan sent a considerable reinforcement under four captains, amongst them a French officer, to the assistance of Gulam Ali. The reinforcement sent by the Sultan took the Heggala ghat route through Coorg. Virarajendra, at the head of a body of his men, took his post at the pass and dispersed the Mysore forces, who left 800 men dead and 400 wounded.

Tippu Sultan was alarmed at the success of Virarajendra, and despatched Burhan-ud-din, his own brother-in-law, with a strong army and large supplies to secure Coorg by strengthening the four forts of Kushalnagar, Mercara, Beppunad and Bhagamandala. On his way to Mercara, he was attacked and beaten by Virarajendra, but escaped to Mercara with the loss of one half of his military stores. Without having the other forts, Burhan-ud-din returned to Srirangapatna to bring in more forces.

Virarajendra was bent upon capturing the forts in Coorg and driving away the Musalman garrisons before the arrival of a bigger army from Srirangapatna. Therefore, at the head of 1,500 Coorgs, he marched in June 1789 against Kushalnagar fort on the banks of the Cauvery. A sally from it checked his advance guard, but coming to its support with the main body, he captured the fort. The garrison endeavoured to escape by swimming across the river, but were pursued with such success that 500 out of 700 were killed. The Killedar's head was laid at the feet of the Raja. Kushalnagar was sacked and the fort burnt. In August, the Raja attacked the fort of Beppunad. The garrison capitulated and obtained free passage through Coorg. The stores of ammunition were seized by the Raja and the remaining things were taken by his men. The fort was then burnt to the ground.

The loss of the Beppunad fort quickened the activity of Burhan-ud-din. He moved towards Coorg with a large force, which, according to the orders of Tippu, was divided into three columns. By dint of extraordinary exertions, he succeeded in throwing supplies into the fort of Bhagamandala, but was repeatedly attacked and beaten on the march and had to fall back on Srirangapatna. The capture of the Bhagamandala fort, which was of some strength, soon followed. Virarajendra planted his guns on the hill of Mumbaratu, and pointed them with his own hands against the fort, which was well-defended. After five days the fort fell. Three copper tiles in the roof of the temple which had been destroyed by the Raja's cannon were replaced by four tiles of silver by the Raja. It must be remembered here that the Musalmans had converted the Bhagamandala temple and its

outer walls into a fort. The Brahmins had carried the images of gods and Sivalingas into some place of safety, inaccessible to the enemy troops, much before the occupation of the Bhagamandala temple precincts.

After the capture of the Bhagamandala fort, the Raja ordered one of his generals, Hombale Nayaka, to descend by the Manasinaghat and to take possession of Amara—Sullia magane and Puttur. Hombale Nayaka took all the country almost to very near Mangalore and sent back part of his troops. Mercara fort alone remained in the hands of Tippu Sultan's men. Virarajendra was now at Nalknad in the thickly wooded western part of Coorg where he was building a palace for himself. From here he sent the following orders to two of his officers, Mandyappanna Appayya and Nagarahalli Putta Gowda.—"I have settled the whole of Coorg and subdued the Tulu country (South Kanara). Madikeri (Mercara) is our own residence. There, Ali Beg still remains with a Musalman force. You must cut off Madikeri from all communications with Mysore and attack the enemy's territory". These officers executed the Raja's orders. The Arkalgud and Konanur regions were pillaged. The farmers of these parts, however, purchased security by offering to give the Coorg Raja one rupee for every pagoda (four rupees) which they had to pay to the treasury of the Sultan. Upon this, the two Coorg chieftains proceeded to the Aigur country, expelled the Mysore forces, possessed themselves of part of the Manjarabad district, and garrisoned Arikeri. Putta Gowda commanded the troops and Mandyappanna Appayya superintended the administration of the newly acquired territory. Mercara fort was cut off from all communication with Mysore and the Killedar, Jaffar Kuli Baig, was reduced to a harmless prisoner in his own fort.

Virarajend Wodeyar's alliance wi the English against Tippu Sult

About this period, the first connection between the English and the Raja of Coorg took place. The Company's force was stationed at Tellicherry and as there was the prospect of the outbreak of a war with Tippu Sultan any time, the British wanted the assistance of the Raja of Coorg in permitting their force to pass through Coorg to Mysore and in furnishing them with draught cattle, grain, etc., on their march. Robert Taylor, then at the head of affairs at Tellicherry, proposed the formation of a cordial alliance and wrote a letter to this effect to Virarajendra Wodeyar. Virarajendra rejoiced at this prospect and was eager to enter into a defensive and offensive alliance with the East India Company against Tippu Sultan. On the receipt of orders from Bombay to conclude, in the name of the British Government, a treaty with the Raja of Coorg, Robert Taylor invited Virarajendra to Tellicherry for a conference Virarajendra went to Tellicherry in October 1790 accompanied by Captain Brown who had been sent to Coorg to conduct the Raja to Tellicherry. There, a treaty between the Raja of Coorg and the East India Company officers

was concluded. The important provisions of the treaty were that both parties to the treaty should treat Tippu Sultan and his allies as their common enemies and that the Raja should render all assistance to the British troops in their war with the Sultan. The British also guaranteed the independence of Coorg and assured the Raja that in the event of a peace being concluded with Tippu Sultan, the interests of the Raja would be faithfully consulted.

Meanwhile, Tippu Sultan, afraid of losing his last strong-hold in Coorg, despatched a convoy with a considerable force under Khadar Khan, who had been a friend of Virarajendra at Periyapatna. Khader Khan was allowed to convey his convoy to Mercara but after the new provisions were consumed, the Killedar capitulated and surrendered the fort to Virarajendra. Virarajendra now for the first time was undisputed master of his ancient patrimony.

About this time, *i.e.*, in the year 1791 A. D., war had been declared against Tippu Sultan by the British who were helped by their allies. General Abercromby, Governor of Bombay, came with an army to Tellicherry to march upon Srirangapatna to join Lord Cornwallis who was marching from Bangalore after he had captured it from the Sultan's men. A passage was prepared through Coorg for the Bombay army. The route of the Heggala pass was chosen. Virarajendra assisted the Bombay army on its march to Srirangapatna with supplies, procured by wholesale plunder of the neighbouring territories. When in February 1792, Lord Cornwallis drove Tippu Sultan back into Srirangapatna, 5,000 Coorgs who had been carried away by Tippu Sultan with their wives and children, altogether some 12,000 souls, made their escape in the confusion and regained their native country. The Sultan was forced to agree to the terms offered by the British, one of which was the surrender of half his dominions adjacent to the Company's possessions. Coorg was in danger of being sacrificed, but Lord Cornwallis, the Governor-General, demanded its cession also, in order to save Virarajendra from Tippu Sultan's vengeance. So enraged was the Sultan at this, that he was about to break off the treaty, saying "to which of the English possessions is Coorg adjacent? Why do they not ask for the key of Srirangapatna?". But as Lord Cornwallis was firm in his demands, the Sultan was forced to give way and the Raja of Coorg remained a firm friend of the British. On the spot where the Raja of Coorg had first met the British Commander, General Abercromby, he founded Virarajendrapet in his own name It is now the second town in Coorg.

On his return from Srirangapatna to Tellicherry in April of 1792, General Abercromby met Virarajendra Wodeyar at Heggala, a village near the newly proposed town of Virarajendrapet. Here

he asked Virarajendra to keep peace with Tippu Sultan, to give back the districts which he had lately wrested from the Sultan and in future to pay the tribute which the Sultan was exacting from him to the British. Virarajendra was very much annoyed at these demands of the general on behalf of the East India Company and refused to accede to them saying that he had never paid tribute to the Sultan, that he would not pay tribute to the Company, that he would not give up the districts taken from Mysore and that he would not agree to such terms. But, however, Virarajendra was persuaded to agree to the terms of the British in a slightly modified form in the beginning of 1793. Abercromby met him at Cannanore and as a result of their talks, a new treaty was drawn up at Cannanore on 31st March 1793. According to this treaty, the British admitted that the Raja of Coorg had himself recovered his hereditary principality from Tippu Sultan without any assistance from the British forces marching from Tellicherry to Mysore in their war against the Sultan, that he had refused to receive payments for his supplies of grain, cattle and other necessities to the British and that he had never swerved from his allegiance to the Company though the Sultan tried much to win him over to his side. It was further stated in the treaty that when the Company desired to take the Raja under their special protection at the end of the war with Tippu, the Sultan falsely stated that the Coorg Raja had paid him a yearly tribute of Rs. 24,000 and had offered to transfer that tribute to the Company, that the Raja had never paid him such a tribute, but that he was quite willing to pay of his own free will the sum of Rs. 24,000 to the Company every year for their friendship and protection and that the Company would not interfere with the Government of Coorg.

Tippu solicited the friendship of Virarajendra, after his defeat at the hands of the English, by promising to cede him some territories both on his eastern and western frontiers. But Virarajendra remained faithful to the Company. Then, the Sultan made more than one futile attempt to get him assassinated.

In the final war with the Sultan. Virarajendra again rendered assistance in supplies and transport to the Bombay army. He was witness of the defeat of Tippu Sultan at Siddeshwara on the eastern frontier of Coorg and his own forces laid waste the enemy's possessions around Coorg in the Tulu and Mysore countries On the fall of Tippu Sultan at Srirangapatna in 1790, he received some of the trophies, but was disappointed in not being allowed to retain Periyapatna taluk. He obtained, however. Panje, Bellare, and Puttur taluks in South Kanara.

He also received a letter from the Governor-General in which his services rendered to the British Government during the wars against Tippu Sultan were gratefully acknowledged and, as a

compensation of the same, the tribute which the Raja had hitherto paid was remitted But, however, it was settled that the Raja should send an elephant every year to the Company in lieu of the former tribute of Rs. 24,000. A paper to this effect was given to the Raja by Captain Mahoney at Virarajendrapet on the 13th October 1799.

Virarajendra lived on the most friendly terms with the Mysore Residents and the Madras Governors, Sir George Barlow and Lord William Bentinck and the Governor-General, the Marquis of Wellesley, from whom he received a splendid sword of honour. Sir Arthur Wellesley, the future Duke of Wellington, wrote about Virarajendra in a letter to the Governor-General "I have seen the Raja of Coorg three or four times on my journeys through this country, I have had constant intercourse with him, and I think him by far the best native that I have ever met".

In 1796, having no son, Virarajendra married a second time, his favourite queen Mahadevammaji, in the Nalknad palace. Alexander Bell with a Company of Sepoys came from Tellicherry to attend the marriage and to honour the installation of Mahadevammaji in whose name Virarajendra built Mahadevpet in the northern part of Mercara town. The new queen bore him four daughters but no son. In 1807, Mahadevammaji died and his hopes of an heir were extinguished. He wrote to the Governor-General informing him of the death of his queen and of his desire to have the succession to the throne settled on his four daughters or their male issue, in order of their seniority, but he did not receive any answer from the Governor-General. In the meantime, his mind was unhinged and he became subject to paroxysms of sanguinary rage in which he ordered executions and massacres of his near relatives, principal officers and the guards of the palace. At last, on June 9, 1809, he sent for his beloved daughter Devammaji, gave his seal into her hands, and shortly after expired. His body was laid to rest in the mausoleum on the hill over-looking the town of Mercara.

Virarajendra Wodeyar was the *beau ideal* of the Coorgs and was much beloved and respected by them. He cared very much for the welfare of his people as is seen by the contents of a letter he wrote to Lord Mornington and General Meadows, that the Coorgs who had been deceitfully made captives at Devatuparambu by the Sultan were being forced to fight against the British by the Sultan and that if such men deserted Tippu's army or if they were caught wounded, the Company's officers should look after them as if they were their own men and send them safely to Coorg. His people faithfully supported him in all his battles, but unfortunately his last days were clouded with unhappiness and he died a miserable wreck.

Devammaji 1809-1811

After the death of Virarajendra, and in accordance with his wishes and the will he had drawn up and sent for the approval of the Governor-General, his daughter Devammaji, a girl of ten years, was acknowledged as the Rani of Coorg by the assembled chiefs. A short time before his death, Virarajendra had expressed his wish that Sode Raja, his son-in-law, the husband of his daughter by his first wife, should act as Dewan during the minority of Devammaji. So, Sode Basavalinga Raja became the principal Dewan and the regent of the young queen. All people felt happy and contented. But soon, affairs began to take a new turn. Lingarajendra, the younger brother of the deceased Virarajendra, persuaded the Coorg headmen and principal officers to remove Sode Raja from Dewanship and himself became the Dewan and the regent of the Rani Devammaji. Very soon, he assumed all authority in Coorg and made his helpless niece sign a paper abdicating her sovereignty in his favour. This happened in 1811 and Lingarajendra announced to the Government of Fort St. George that he had permanently assumed charge of the government of Coorg.

Lingarajendra Wodeyar II 1811-1820.

Lingarajendra was an able ruler. He strengthened all the fortifications of the country and carried out a systematic survey of the lands and fixed the assessment, based on the classification of the lands according to their fertility. He passed a series of 54 orders called 'Hukums' for the good government of the country. His second order of public conduct is of interest as it indicated how he wanted his officers to behave with his subjects It reads thus: (1) when collecting the palace dues, read often and remember the commands set forth in the Hukumnama; swerve never so little from what is therein ordained. Collect with discretion and diligence what is due to the palace but oppress not the people, (2) Collect from the ryots and people what is rightly due. Collect not more thinking to gain favour from your protector. By such collection the treasury will not be filled Therefore, forego not the smallest coin of what is due, but allowing grace at your discretion, collect it. Oppress not the people.

But the Raja expected excessive reverence from his people and severely punished those who spoke ill of him or his Government. He excelled at field sports and entertained his European guests with marked consideration and cordiality. He built in 1812 the existing palace at Mercara in which the Government offices are now functioning on the site of the old palace and the Omkareshwara temple in 1820. He died in 1820 and was buried along with his wife who committed suicide immediately after his death by taking diamond powder, in the mausoleum constructed by his son by the side of his brother Virarajendra's mausoleum.

Chikkavirarajendra Wodeyar succeeded his father in 1820 and ruled Coorg till his deposition in 1834. He was young and

Chikkavira rajendra Wodeyar 1820-1834.

inexperienced in the art of government when he ascended the throne. To his misfortune, he was surrounded by evil counsellors and soon became unpopular with some of the Coorg Dewans and headmen. On his accession to power, possibly at the instance of his evil genius, Dewan Basavanna, he put to death those who had thwarted his wishes in the life-time of his father. In 1825, he put to death one Chennavira, a relative of his, with his family at Kanthamurnad for alleged treason. The British Resident in Mysore demanded of the Raja a report of all the capital punishments inflicted by him in his kingdom, but the Raja did not comply with the Resident's demand on the ground that he was an independent prince and that the British had no right to interfere in his affairs.

In 1832, however, serious differences arose between the Raja and the Company which ultimately led to the annexation of Coorg and the deposition of the Raja. Virarajendra's sister, Devammaji (not his cousin Devammaji, the daughter of Dodda Virarajendra Wodeyar) had been given in marriage by his father, Lingarajendra Wodeyar, to one Chenna Basavappa, a Coorg by birth, but who had become a Lingayat, before his marriage. This Chenna Basavappa and some others, discontented with the tyrannical rule of the Raja, formed themselves into a league to dethrone him. When Chikkavirarajendra got scent of the evil designs against him, he wanted to imprison Chenna Basavappa. But Chenna Basavappa, who was in Appagola Pannia, escaped across the frontier with his wife and a few faithful followers, and took refuge with the British Resident at Bangalore. At once, Chikkavirarajendra wrote letters, first to the Resident in Mysore to deliver up the fugitive to him and, when it was without avail, to the Governor of Madras and to Lord William Bentinck, the Governor-General, to the same effect. But the Company's officers refused to hand over the fugitive to the Raja. Thereupon, Chikkavirarajendra, who, misled by his ignorant and evil advisers, had an extraordinary idea of his power and the inaccessibility of his country, issued a proclamation calling upon the people of the neighbouring countries to join him against the English. The British then marched into Coorg in four columns from Mysore, Malabar and South Kanara. At this time, partly by a hope that a reconciliation was yet possible and partly by fear that he might lose all if matters came to a head, the Raja sent orders from the Nalknad palace where he had gone for safety from Mercara, prohibiting his men from encountering the troops of the Company. Before these orders were received by his men, they had stemmed the tide of invasion from all sides of Coorg except from the east, from Ramaswami Kanive side. On the 4th April, 1834, a flag of truce was sent to the British camp at Harangi from the Raja and on the 6th April, 1834, at 4 P.M., the British flag was hoisted in the fort at Mercara. The Raja was deposed and was deported to Benares, where he was allowed a decent pension.

Before the Raja was deposed and pensioned off, he pleaded that he might be allowed to remain on the throne under the close supervision of the British Resident. But the British, who had known the strategical importance of Coorg in controlling the neighbouring districts of Mysore, Malabar and South Kanara and who liked the pleasant and temperate climate of Coorg, were determined to bring Coorg directly under their rule. Therefore, to justify the rather unjust and hasty deposition of the Raja, Col. Fraser, who was the officer in over-all command of the British forces and the political officer of the Company, made a pretence of consulting the wishes of the people as to the future administration of the State. He called for an assembly of the headmen and principal officers of the State in front of the European guest house at Mercara. When these headmen and officers found that they would be treated as if they were the masters of the country, they were greatly pleased with the sudden change from abject servitude to a kind of consequential independence and readily agreed to be ruled by the Company. The upshot was that Col. Fraser issued a proclamation, which declared that Coorg was annexed because it was the express wish of the people of Coorg to be ruled by the British Government.

The character of Chikkaviraraj endra appears to have been intentionally blackened by the later European historiographers of Coorg, like Dr. Moegling, G. Richter and L. Rice. William Jefferson, an officer of the East India Company, who was in Coorg for some time at the time of the last Raja and who knew the conditions in Coorg at that time, has written in the book "Coorg and its Rajas" published in England in 1855, that "we were particularly gratified at finding that this prince was easy of access to his ryots, listening patiently to their grievances and manifesting towards them the utmost consideration and kindness; this ensured him in return their loyalty and affection as a proof of which whenever we travelled with the Raja into the interior of the country, hundreds of natives, men, women and children with curiosity crowded my companion and me— an Englishman being a rara avis in those parts—received the Raja with every demonstration of respect and attachment. It gives me the greatest satisfaction to mention this, being aware that the most sinister reports for interested purposes, were industriously propagated to the Raja's prejudice."

As further proof of the esteem in which the Raja was held by his subjects, it may be mentioned that, on his being deposed, he issued a written order addressed to his Dewans, Subedars, and Munshees requiring them to state in writing the manner in which he had governed the country from the time of his assuming the reins of government up to his dethronement and whether they were satisfied or not with his system of government. The reply to this was a declaration signed by more than

four hundred persons expressive of their entire satisfaction with the manner in which the Raja had conducted his government and administered justice among them.

But Chikkavirarajendra and his predecessors were impatient of opposition even if the opposition was justified. A Lingayat, formerly in the service of Chikkavirarajendra, gave the following opinion of the Rajas to Mr. Graeme, an officer of the Madras Government, six months before the annexation of Coorg by the Company "He (Chikkavirarajendra) and his predecessors ruled the people justly but strictly, prohibited the people from talking even in private conversation about the transactions of the Government or those of the ruling family. Any person who infringed this rule was punished by the Raja himself according to the severity of the offence committed."

Chikkavirarajendra went to England in 1852 with two of his wives and his favourite daughter, Gouramma. He was the first Indian prince to sail to England from India. He died in London on the 24th September, 1859.

Pretenders to the Coorg throne.

After the annexation of Coorg by the Company, two pretenders to the Coorg throne, Aparampara and Kalyanaswamy, appeared on the scene in 1835 and 1837, respectively. Aparampara claimed to be Virappa, the first son of Appaji Raja, the uncle of Chikkavirarajendra. But his claim was disproved by the Coorg Dewans and Aparampara was soon apprehended and imprisoned. Kalyanaswamy pretended to be the second son of Appaji Raja but both the sons of Appaji Raja had been imprisoned and starved to death, it is said, by Chikkavirarajendra in order to make his position safe on the throne. Kalyanaswamy had some initial success in the South Kanara part of Coorg, though he had not much support in Coorg proper. He took possession of Mangalore from the Company's officers who had fled from the town before the arrival of his men and had it under him for thirteen days, before the British returned from Tellichery with a bigger force and captured Mangalore. Kalyanaswamy was taken prisoner and hanged. The Coorgs helped the British in capturing the forts of Sullia and Bellare from the rebels and they were rewarded with lands on permanent tenure and pensions for three generations

Coorg under British Rule.

After annexation by the British in 1834, Coorg was brought under the administration of the Foreign and Political Department of the Government of India, with the Commissioner of Mysore State as the Commissioner of Coorg also The Commissioner had his headquarters at Bangalore while under him the Superintendent was the chief local authority in Coorg. The Superintendent was assisted in his work by two Assistant Superintendents, one a European officer and the other a local man. Lt. Col. Fraser, the Political Agent and also the officer in over-all command of the

British forces when they first occupied Coorg, was the first Commissioner and Captain C.F. LeHardy was the first Superintendent of Coorg.

At the time of the annexation, the principality of Coorg had included the two taluks of Amara-Sullia and Puttur below the ghats, comprising an area of about 580 square miles. In 1834, these two taluks were, for the convenience of administration, separated from Coorg and added to the Collectorate of South Kanara. The remaining territory was formed into the separate province of Coorg and placed under the Government of India. It was then constituted into a non-regulation province, which meant that it was practically not subject to the operation of the legislative acts of the Government of India except when they were specially made applicable to it. At the time of the annexation, Lt. Col. Fraser issued a proclamation that the inhabitants of the State would not again be subjected to native rule and that their civil and religious usages would be respected and that the greatest desire would invariably be shown by the British Government to augment their security and happiness. The British upheld the authority of the officials who were under the deposed Raja and continued them in their places. In August 1834, Fraser issued "Rules for the conduct of the District functionaries in Coorg" which stated how the revenue authorities, the Subedars Sheristedars, Parpathigars, should visit the villages in their jurisdiction and render all help to the raiyats to cultivate their fields and how justice should be administered by the Subedars, Parpathigars and Patels in their respective areas of authority. The ultimate appellate authority lay with the Superintendent of Coorg representing the British East India Company. The ghee tax which had been paid during the times of the Rajas was abolished and the dhuli paddy tax was added to the land revenue assessment. In other respects, the administration continued in the same manner as it was being conducted during the Rajas' times. But the British abolished the system of slavery which was prevalent in Coorg. The Coorg Dewans and the Government officers who were themselves the owners of slaves opposed the abolition of slavery but the British were firm on this reform.

The general condition of the people was improved. The safety of person and property was secured; taxation was simplified and assessed with precision; the country was intercepted by roads passable at all seasons; schools were opened for the education of the children; imperial currency was introduced and medical treatment and vaccination were offered to all classes of people in course of time.

From the second half of the nineteenth century, the prospect of the country began to change by the large-scale cultivation of

coffee in Coorg. Probably introduced by Moplahs (Malayalam-speaking Muslims of Malabar) in Nalknad, who first concealed their success, it was encouraged by Capt. LeHardy, the first Superintendent of Coorg. But when Europeans took it up, it soon became the main industry of Coorg. The first European plantation was opened at Mercara in 1854. Others followed in different parts and by 1870, most of the forest land in Coorg was converted into coffee estates. As the climate of the district was suited to the Europeans, a good number of them settled in Coorg, owning or managing coffee estates. The estates gave employment to the persons who were formerly enslaved and also attracted thousands of labourers from Mysore, Hassan, South Kanara and the northern part of Kerala to Coorg. Coffee estates were taxed and brought in considerable revenue to the Government. Trade increased as the number of imported articles increased. New towns sprang up and old towns and the existing market towns had a greater volume of trade. Cardamom lands which were under the control of the Revenue Department, were transferred to the Forest Department in the second half of the last century and the Forest Department began the system of leasing out the cardamom jungles to the highest bidders. This system of leasing also brought in more revenue to the Government.

The improvements brought about and the amenities provided by the British administrators improved the standard of living of the people, particularly the land-owners. The Coorgs were the principal land-owners in those days, as they are even to-day. They proved very loyal and devoted to the British rulers. As said on a previous occasion, they evinced their loyalty and fidelity to the British by proceeding under their own chiefs to the suppression of the rebellion in the former Rajas' territories below the ghats in South Kanara. Later, when British supremacy in India had been shaken to its foundation in what is now known as the first war of independence in 1857, a body of Coorgs, armed to the teeth, suddenly made their appearance at Periyapatna in Mysore District under the secret instructions of Sir Mark Cubbon, the then Commissioner of Mysore, and by their presence tended to suppress the disaffection of the Muslim classes of Srirangapatna and the adjacent parts. In recognition and appreciation of their loyalty and fidelity to the British, Sir Mark Cubbon exempted the Coorgs from the operation of the Arms Act.

When the administration of India was transferred to the British crown from the East India Company, many legal enactments of the Government of India were made applicable to Coorg. In 1861 and 1862, Coorg was under the operation of the Indian Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code and subsequently of other legislative Acts. The first Forest Rules for Coorg were introduced in 1865, but when forest operations increased in the province, these rules were superseded and new rules for the

better management and preservation of Government forests in Coorg were issued by the Government of India in 1871.

In 1869, the post of Commissioner was redesignated as Chief Commissioner, the post of Superintendent as Commissioner and those of Assistant Superintendents as Assistant Commissioners. The Chief Commissioner exercised the powers of the Inspector-General of Police, Director of Public Instruction, Conservator of Forests, etc. The Commissioner had revenue powers similar to those exercised by a Collector of Madras and in judicial matters, both civil and criminal, the powers of a District and Sessions Judge. The first Assistant Commissioner who was also the District Magistrate had supervision over the police, while the second Assistant Commissioner presided over the civil court and was also in charge of the treasury. The various other departments of Government, such as Education, Public Works, Forests, Prisons, Registration, etc., were, till about 1890, administered by the heads of the same departments in Mysore.

The amenities provided to the people during the seventies of the last century were the upgrading of the Mercara English Central School to the Matriculation standard, the opening of the hospitals at Mercara and Virajpet and the extension of the Postal Departmental facilities.

In 1870, the two towns of Coorg, Mercara and Virajpet, were constituted as municipalities. The committee for each town was composed of *ex-officio* and nominated members. The Commissioner of Coorg was the President of the Mercara Municipality, while the Munsiff-Magistrate of Virajpet was the President of the Virajpet Municipality. In 1901, a District Board was constituted to administer local funds. It was then composed of nine nominated, two elected and five *ex-officio* members, under the presidency of the Commissioner. Their duties included the maintenance of roads and ferries, diffusion of primary education, upkeep of dispensaries, travellers' bungalows and labourers' shelters.

A regiment of the Madras Infantry which had been quartered at Mercara from 1837 was withdrawn in 1883

Things continued in this way till a few years after the second decade of the twentieth century. By this time, a number of people of Coorg had received English education and had known the advantages of people's participation in the government of a district or a State. They felt that the Chief Commissioner was autocratic and that this was not conducive to efficient administration of the district. Therefore, they began to agitate for a change of government in the district. About 1918, an organisation of the people called the Coorg Land-holders' Association was

started with its headquarters at Mercara. At a meeting of this association held in the same year, the leading non-officials, landholders, retired Government officers and planters of Coorg passed a resolution denouncing the autocratic rule of the Chief Commissioner and requesting the Governor-General of India to amalgamate Coorg with the Madras Presidency. Consequent on this agitation of the people of Coorg, and under the new constitutional reforms introduced in the country under the Government of India Act of 1919, Coorg was constituted as a Chief Commissioner's Province with a Legislative Council consisting of 15 elected members and five members nominated by the Chief Commissioner. of whom four were officials and one non-official to represent the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Of the 15 seats allotted for elected members, two seats were reserved for Europeans. The Chief Commisioner of Coorg was the President of the Council and the Commissioner was the member for finance and vice-president of the Council. This Council began to function from the year 1924.

The Council was an advisory body. The Chief Commissioner had full powers to refuse or to accept any resolution passed or recommendation made by the council. But though an advisory body, Coorg was the first and the only Chief Commissioner's province to be given even such a body.

But the people of Coorg were not satisfied with the grant of an Advisory Council in which no measure which went against the wishes of the Government was accepted or passed. Therefore, in 1928, a resolution urging amalgamation of Coorg with the proposed Karnataka province was passed in the Coorg Legislative Council with a large majority. In the year 1938. a large majority of the people of Coorg favoured the amalgamation of Coorg with Mysore. But as there were sections of people opposed to the amalgamation of Coorg with any other province and as the Government was not in favour of changing the status of Coorg, these movements came to nothing.

The financial condition in Coorg was worsening year after year from 1924 to 1940. There were successive deficits in the Budget of the province. Therefore, the Government of India directed a general enquiry into its financial position. The enquiry was carried out by Mr. P. K. Wattal, then Accountant-General at Madras. Purely as a measure of economy, Mr. Wattal recommended among other things, (1) to divest the Resident in Mysore of his powers and functions as Chief Commissioner of Coorg and to raise the status of the Commissioner of Coorg to that of a Chief Commissioner and (2) to abolish the post of the Subordinate Judge in Coorg, and create a post of District and Sessions Judge.

The Government of India accepted Mr. Wattal's recommendations, and with the sanction of the Secretary of State for India, divested the Resident in Mysore of his powers and functions as Chief Commissioner of Coorg. The post of the Commissioner of Coorg was abolished and his functions as Commissioner were divided, between the new Chief Commissioner and the Assistant Commissioner. The office of the Chief Commissioner which was at Bangalore attached to the Resident's office was shifted to Mercara in 1940. Thus, Coorg in every respect became a self-sufficient unit with all the offices located within its territory and was governed by a full-time Chief Commissioner.

After the attainment of Independence, there was some agitation in Coorg about its future. A conference of the representatives of the different political groups in Coorg was held in Delhi, in November 1949 by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. A member from the Coorg Legislative Council was elected to the Indian Constituent Assembly and he continued to be the member of the Indian Parliament till the General Elections of 1957.

Under the Constitution of India, Coorg became a Part 'C' State and after the passing of the Part 'C' States Act, 1951, a new Legislative Assembly with 24 members was constituted in March 1952. Three seats were reserved for the Scheduled Castes and one for the Scheduled Tribes. The Chief Commissioner was directly responsible to the President of India and in the disposal of Government business, he was assisted by two elected ministers appointed by the President under Section 37 of the Part 'C' States Act, 1951.

The classification of States constituting the Union of India into three categories known as Part 'A', Part 'B' and Part 'C' States was adopted essentially as a transitional expedient and was not intended to be a permanent feature of the constitutional structure of the country. Public opinion, both within and without the Part 'B' and Part 'C' States, was critical of the anomalous position which, it was argued, offended against the principle of equal rights and opportunities for the people of India. It was therefore considered desirable to reorganise the States on a rational basis and to do away with the distinctions existing between the States.

On 22nd December 1953, the Prime Minister made a statement in Parliament to the effect that a Commission would be appointed to examine "objectively and dispassionately" the question of the reorganisation of the States of the Indian Union "so that the welfare of the people of each constituent unit as well as the nation as a whole was promoted". Accordingly, the States Reorganisation Commission was appointed to make recommendations to the

Government of India not later than 30th June 1955, which date was subsequently extended to 30th September 1955. The Commission submitted its report on the 30th September 1955. So far as Part 'C' States were concerned, the conclusion arrived at by the Commission was that the merger of the Part 'C' States with the adjoining States was the only solution of their problems and it suggested that Coorg be included in the proposed State of Karnataka which they had recommended. With regard to Coorg, the Commission, in paragraphs 344, 345 and 346 of their report, said :

> " (344) Coorg has retained its separate administration owing to what the Indian Statutory Commission has described as "historic causes". It is a Part 'C' State. The question of its separate existence has, therefore, to be determined by the general considerations set out in Chapter I of this part. The affiliations of this State are predominantly with Karnataka. Kannada-speaking people form the largest linguistic group in the State, accounting for 35 per cent of its population ; Coorgi or Kodagu, which is spoken by about 29 per cent of its people is akin to Kannada and is regarded by some authorities as a dialect of Kannada. Culturally, Coorg has had more links with the east, which is mainly Karnataka country, than with the west and the south, and geographically the whole of Coorg forms part of Malnad which belongs essentially to Karnataka.
>
> (345) Referring to Coorg in connection with the question of the formation of Karnataka, the Dar Commission expressed the view that if a Karnataka Province was created, "it would have also solved the problem of the small province of Coorg which has been carrying on a difficult and isolated existence". The future of this small State, therefore, lies with the adjoining Kannada-speaking areas in which it should merge.
>
> (346) While the case for integration of Coorg in the proposed Karnataka State appears to us to be indisputable, we wish to take note of the claim to a distinct individuality which the people of this minor administration have put forward. We suggest that a concession should be made to this sentiment by demarcating it as a separate district of the prospective Karnataka State".

The Government of India considered the report of the States Reorganisation Commission and introduced a bill in Parliament to provide for the reorganisation of the States of India and for matters connected therewith. The States Reorganisation Act, 1956, among other things, provided for the formation of a new Mysore State and declared that from the appointed day, *i.e.*,

1st November 1956, "there shall be formed a new Part 'A' State to be known as the State of Mysore comprising the following territories, namely :—

(*a*) the territories of the existing State of Mysore.

(*b*) Belgaum District except Chandgad Taluka and Bijapur, Dharwar and Kanara Districts, in the existing State of Bombay.

(*c*) Gulbarga District except Kodangal and Tandur Taluks, Raichur District except Alampur and Gadwal Taluks, and Bidar District except Ahmadpur, Nilanga and Udgir Taluks and the portions specified in clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 3, in the existing State of Hyderabad.

(*d*) South Kanara District except Kasargod Taluk and Amindivi Islands, and Kollegal Taluk of Coimbatore District, in the State of Madras;

(*e*) the territories of the existing State of Coorg;

and thereupon the said territories shall cease to form part of the said existing States of Mysore, Bombay, Hyderabad, Madras and Coorg respectively.

2. The territory comprised in the existing State of Coorg shall form a separate district to be known as Coorg District, and the said Kollegal Taluk shall be included in, and become part of, Mysore District, in the new State of Mysore".

With effect from the same day, the Government of India Part 'C' States Act, 1951, was repealed with the proviso that the said repeal would not affect any laws made by the Legislature of a Part 'C' State by virtue of any power conferred on that Legislature by the Act so repealed, and all such laws in force immediately before the appointed day shall continue in force, subject to such adaptations and modifications as may be made therein under section 120, until altered, repealed or amended by a competent Legislature or other competent authority.

After the reorganisation of the States, Coorg District was allotted two seats in the Mysore Legislative Assembly, in accordance with the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1956, and elections were held in 1957 to fill up these two seats. One seat was given to Coorg in the Mysore Legislative Council.

Thus, Coorg which was for a long time a separate unit, became a part of Mysore State with effect from 1st November 1956

and formed one of the districts of that State. After the formation of the new Mysore State, Government considered it necessary to divide the State for administrative purposes into four divisions, *viz.*, Bangalore, Mysore, Belgaum and Gulbarga Divisions. Coorg district formed part of the Mysore Division.

Political awakening in Coorg.

In 1928, a District Congress Association was started in Coorg and many people took part in the civil disobedience movement initiated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1930 and the Quit India movement in 1942. In 1927, when Lord Simon as Chairman of the Indian Statutory Commission came to India to ascertain the views of the leading people in public life about the constitutional changes or reforms required by them, some leading men from Coorg waited in a deputation on Lord Simon at Bangalore and presented a memorandum to him. Three main desires of the leading inhabitants were (1) to amalgamate with a bigger province or to obtain complete provincial autonomy, (2) that Coorg should be represented permanently in the proposed Council of State and (3) to obtain a number of changes of purely local importance. In the report of the Indian Statutory Commission, no change in the form of Government was recommended but a recommendation was made that Coorg should send one representative to the Council of State in turn with Baluchistan and Ajmer Mewara and that the term of such a member was to be seven years. This recommendation about Coorg disappointed the people, and it did not even materialise. Therefore, discontent among the people grew and this added to the tempo of the civil disobedience movement. Many leading politicians courted arrest and were imprisoned or fined. Legislative Council members who were returned on the Congress ticket resigned from the Council. As the Coorg Congress organisation was a branch of the Karnataka Provincial organisation, it followed in the footsteps of the parent organisation. With the advent of freedom, the anti-Government agitational attitude of the Congress organisation ended. The Congress was popular with the people and the General Elections were held in Coorg in 1952 after Coorg was constituted as a Class 'C' State. Candidates put up by the Congress party were returned in a majority and they formed the Government. A two-member ministry was formed and this ministry continued in office till the date of integration with the bigger new State of Mysore. One member represented Coorg in the Lok Sabha and one member in rotation with Ajmer Mewara represented Coorg in the Rajya Sabha for three years.

After the integration of Coorg in the reorganised State of Mysore, candidates supported by the Congress have been elected to the Mysore Legislative Assembly.

Archaeology

There are no buildings or structures of great archaeological interest in Coorg, except a Jain basadi of the fifteenth century and the Palace, the Omkareswara temple and the Rajas' tombs of the beginning of the 19th century. The Jain basadi which is in Betageri village near Suntikoppa is built of cut stones and cut stone slabs. On the pillars, there are figures of the lotus engraved. Inside the basadi, are the stone images of Thirthankara and Padmavathi of different sizes. They are beautifully sculptured. The Palace in Mercara which was built by Lingarajendra Wodeyar II in 1812 A.D. on the site of the old palace is a solid building, but has no architectural beauty. The ground plan of the Palace is that of a big house with an open square in the middle. It consists of two storeys, is lofty and spacious and covers a great extent of area. Considerable changes, however, have been made with regard to the face of this structure which is quite after the European fashion, presenting a very handsome front. A range of arches runs nearly along the whole extent of the bottom part, the upper having a contiguous row of windows shut in by glass sashes and venetian blinds, the centre window projecting into a small balcony supported by two rearing horses formed of masonry. The whole palace is built of brick and mortar and altogether finished with solidity and elegance.

The mausoleums of Doddavirarajendra and Lingarajendra are remarkable. They are square buildings, much in the style of Muhammadan edifices, with a handsome dome in the centre, and four minaret-like turrets at the corners, surmounted by *basavas* or bulls. On the top of the dome is a gilded ball, with a weathercock above it, and all the window frames are of handsomely sculptured syenite blocks, with solid brass bars. A flight of stone steps flanked on the top by two well-carved pillars with representations of Shiva, leads to an open platform all round the building.

The Omkareswara temple built by Lingarajendra Wodeyar is in the same style as the mausoleums of the Rajas. There is a small tank below in front of the temple.

Seventy-five inscriptions, six on copper plates and the others on big stone slabs, on stone pillars or pedestals or on martyrs' stones called *Virakallus* in Kannada have been found in Coorg. Of these, the inscriptions dating from the 4th century to the 15th century are of historical interest, as they are the only source material for the history of Coorg during those centuries.

Genealogical table of the Ganga Kings

Prithvi-Kongani II
Permmanadi
14. Sivamara II 816
Saigotta
Vijayaditya
15. Rajamalla
Satyavakya I
817–828
Marasimha 797
Marasing Ereyappa
Loka Trinetra
Prithivipati I 815
Pilduvipathi
Dindika
16. Nitimargga I 869
Ereyanga
Ranavikramayya
Marasimha
Prithvipati II 910
Hastimalla
17. Rajamalla Satyavakya II
870–907
Butugendra 870
Butarasa
Gunaduttaranga
married Rashtrakuta
Princess.
18. Ereyappa 886–913
Ereganga
Nitimarga II
Satyavakya
Mahendrakanta
19. Rachamalla Satyavakya
III
Kacheya Ganga 920
Pambabbo
20 Butuga 938–953
Butayya
Nanniya Ganga
Ganga-Gangeya
married Rashtrakuta
Princess.
Morula Deva
Somi Devi
21. Marasimha 961–974
Guttiya-Ganga
Nolamba Kulantaka
22. Rachamalla
Satyavakya IV
977
23. Rakkasa Ganga 984
Rachamalla
24. Nitimarga III
Rachamalla (?)
989, 999
Arumuli Deva
Rajavidyadhara

Among the names found in the above genealogical table, only four names are found in the inscriptions and copper plates found in Coorg. The copper plate found in the Mercara Treasury does not refer to Coorg. It mentions about a gift of a village outside Coorg made by the Ganga king Kongani Mahadhiraja named Avinita. The first stone inscription dated 888 A.D. is of the time of the Ganga king, Rajamalla Satyavakya II. The second stone inscription also mentions the name of the same king. He comes 17th in the genealogical table. The third stone inscription is of the time of Satyavakya IV who ruled about 977 and 978 A.D. He is number 22 in the table. The fifth inscription dated 1000 A.D. is of Ganga times and is of the last Ganga king, though no mention is made of any king in the inscription.

Genealogical Table of the earlier Changalvas.

Nanni Changalva	..	.. 1034
Nanni Changalva	..	.. 1060
Madeva	..	.. 1090
Udeyatya	..	.. 1097
Annadani	..	.. 1106
Mahadeva	..	.. 1174
Pemma Virappa	..	.. 1175
Soma Deva, Boppa Deva	..	.. 1245-52
Malli Deva	..	. 1280
Malli Deva, Harihara Deva	.	c1280
Malli Deva, Harihar Deva	..	.. 1296
Harihar Deva	..	.. 1207

It is evident from the big gaps in the times of the several kings named here that there were some other kings ruling in between.

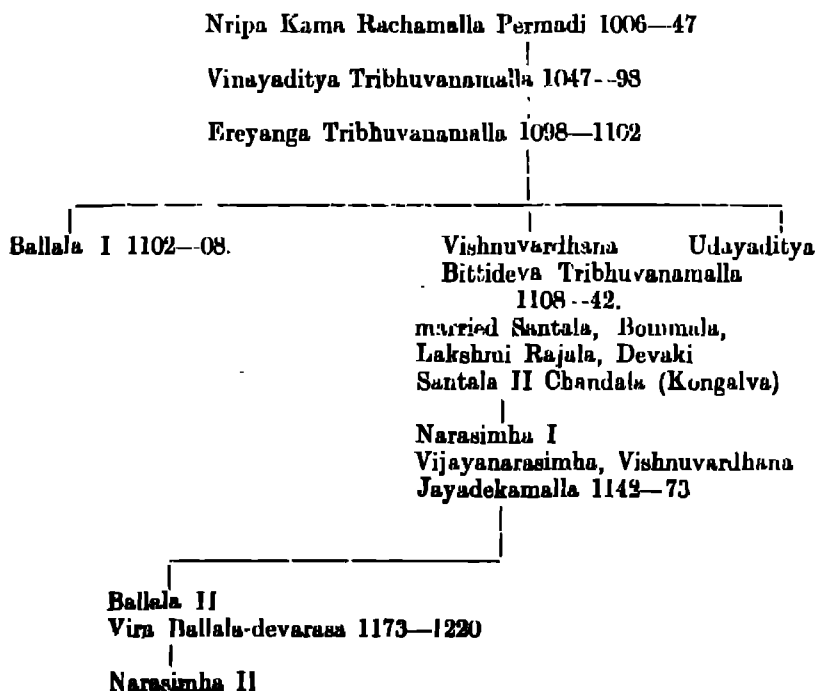
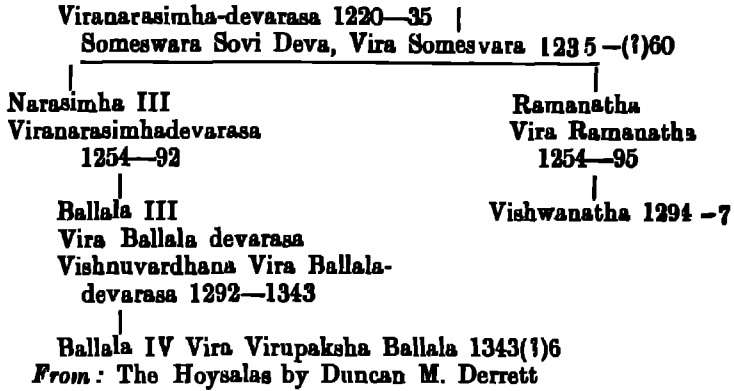
Genealogical Table of the later Changalvas

Naga	..	.. Date not given
Ranga	..	.. ,,
Piriya, Piriyana	..	.. ,,
Nanja Raja	..	.. 1502-33
Nanjunda Raja	..	.. Date not given
Srikantha Rajaiya Srikantharasu		.. 1544
Viraraja Wodeyar	..	.. 1559-80
Piriya Rajaiya Deva Rudragana		.. 1586-1607
Nanjunda Deva	..	.. Date not given
Nanja Rajaiya Deva	..	.. 1612-19
Krishna Rajaiya Deva	..	.. 1617
Vira Rajaiya	..	.. 1619-44

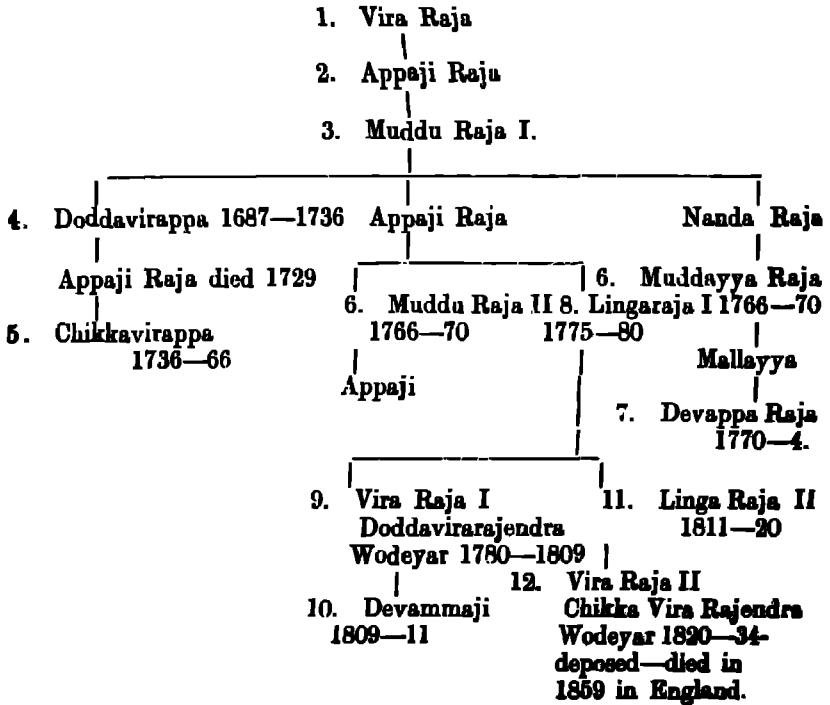
Genealogical table of the Kongalvas as can be gathered from the introduction to Coorg Inscriptions by Rice. The table as such is not given in that book.

Panchavan Maharaya Kshatriya Sikamani Kongalva	.. ..	1004
Rajendra Chola Kongalva	.. ..	1026
Rajadhiraja Kongalva	about ..	1050
Rajendra Kongalva	.. ..	1058
Adaraditya Rajendra Prithuvi Kongalva and Tribhuvanamalla Chola Kongalva	.. ..	1066-1100
Vira Chola Kongalva	.. ..	1176

Genealogical table of the Hoysala Family.

From: The Hoysalas by Duncan M. Derrett

The Nava Dannayakas

1. Permala Dannayaka (had eight brothers)
2. Madhava Dannayaka 1318
3. Ketaya Dannayaka 1321.
4. Singeya Dannayaka.

Genealogical Table of the Haleri Family

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

Total Population

THE total population of the Coorg district according to the Census of 1961 is 322,829 ; 173,338 are men and 149,491 women, the ratio between the two sexes being 1000 : 862. This total population is distributed over an area of 1,590 square miles. In area, Coorg ranks last among the districts of the Mysore State. From the point of view of population also, it comes last. If the density of population is considered, it is 203 per square mile in Coorg, and in this, it beats North Kanara which has 173 persons per square mile. Coorg, being a hilly district with abundant rainfall, has thick evergreen forests on the hill slopes and deciduous forests (Kanive Kadu) on the lower levels of the passes. The area under forests is about a third of the total area of the district Therefore, it is no wonder that the density of population of Coorg falls below that of the Mysore State as a whole, which is 319. Coorg is mainly an agricultural district producing food crops like rice, cereals, ragi and pulses, and commercial crops like coffee, cardamom, rubber and tea, and that is also one of the reasons for the sparsity of population in Coorg. But, it is significant that the population of Coorg has been increasing considerably during the past three decades from 1931 onwards.

In the 18th century, during the times of the Rajas, the sanguinary and relentless persecution of the people of Coorg by Tippu Sultan and the deportation of a large number of them to Mysore resulted in diminishing the population of Coorg. Later, after the fall of Tippu Sultan, the Rajas of Coorg made attempts to bring people from outside the district and encouraged them to settle in Coorg by granting them lands free of assessment for some years and on low assessment during the subsequent years ; but these people could not stand the rigors of the cold climate of Coorg and the scourge of malaria, and so either perished or left the district. The Rajas too were said to have exterminated whole families of people suspected of treason against them. All these facts retarded the growth of population till the annexation of Coorg by the British in 1834.

The first official estimate of the population of Coorg was made in 1839-40 and then it was found that there were 81,437 people. The regular census of the population in Coorg, as in most other places in India, began in 1871. The total population of Coorg, according to the census taken on the night of the 14th November, 1871, was 168,312. From that time up to the Census of 1961, the population has shown an increase except during the decades 1901 to 1931. The following figures show the population from 1871 to 1961.

1871	..	168,312	1921	..	163,838
1881	..	178,302	1931	..	163,327
1891	..	173,055	1941	..	168,726
1901	..	180,607	1951	..	229,405
1911	..	174,976	1961	..	322,829

There has not been much variation in the population of Coorg from 1871 to 1941, the little that is in evidence being due to the presence or absence of the immigrant labourers working in the plantations, who return to their places after they finish their work in the estates. But from 1941 to 1961, there has been a phenomenal increase due to various reasons. After 1941, malaria which was the scourge of Coorg and which deterred the people from outside from settling in Coorg was almost eradicated in the course of a decade. Business and trade grew rapidly as vehicular traffic increased between Coorg and the districts of South Kanara, Malabar, Mysore and Hassan, owing to the improvement of communications. Coffee plantations and cardamom plantations also have increased in number, owing to the prevalence of attractive prices for both these commodities. This increase in the number of plantations has drawn a large number of labourers from the neighbouring districts and even from Coimbatore district. From 1941, there have been more births than deaths in Coorg, as it is in other parts of India. The span of life of the people has become longer. All the above factors have contributed to the increase in population from 1941.

The increase of population in Coorg from 1941 to 1951 works out to 35.96 per cent and that from 1951 to 1961 to 40.72 per cent. Among the districts of the State, Coorg takes the third place, while Shimoga and Chikmagalur take the first and the second places with an increase of 53.38 and 43.05 per cent, respectively. The total population of the whole State has increased only by 21.57 per cent during the inter-censal period from 1951 to 1961.

Taluk-wise population.

In the case of Coorg, it is not possible to find out taluk-wise percentage of increase of population from decade to decade, as the number of taluks has varied during each census period. The population of taluks for 1951 and 1961 is as follows :—

Taluk		1951	1961
Mercara	..	57.128	79,540
Virajpet	..	69,912	133,872
Somwarpet	..	102,365	109,417

Of the three taluks in Coorg, Mercara has the smallest population because it is smaller in area than the other two taluks, has less number of coffee estates and cardamom plantations and has more hill ranges and uncultivated valleys between the hill ridges than the other two taluks. Rainfall also is heavier in Mercara taluk. But it is significant that in this taluk the percentage of increase over the population of 1951 is 39.23. The Virajpet taluk has recorded a big increase of 91.49 per cent of population in 1961 over that of 1951.

Urban and Rural Population.

Of the total population of 322,829 of the district, 42,689 live in towns and 280,140 live in villages, the percentage of the urban population to the total population being 13.22. The urban population in Coorg in 1951 was only 16,255, comprising the people of only the two municipalities of Mercara and Virajpet, but in the 1961 census, the notified areas of Coorg (small towns with an elected administrative body) have been treated as urban areas and the population of these areas has been classified as urban. The population of all the notified areas comes to about 20,000. The population of the two municipalities of Mercara and Virajpet together with the population of all the notified areas in Coorg being treated as urban population, shows a 162.6 per cent increase over the urban population of 1951. According to the census of 1951, the population of the district and that of the urban and rural areas, respectively, was 229,405, 16,255 and 213,150. The rural population in Coorg shows an increase of 31.43 per cent during the period from 1951 to 1961.

Towns.

Towns have been divided into six classes according to their population as follows :—

Class I	..	1,00,000 and above
Class II	..	50,000 to 1,00,000
Class III	..	20,000 to 50,000
Class IV	..	10,000 to 20,000
Class V	..	5,000 to 10,000
Class VI	..	Under 5,000

There are ten towns in Coorg and 277 villages, according to the 1961 census. There were only two towns in 1951. As stated earlier, the inclusion of the notified areas in the category of towns has raised the number of towns to ten from two. The number of villages which was 297 in 1951, has come down to 288 in 1961 of which 277 are inhabited villages.

The number of households in 1951 and 1961.

The number of households in Coorg in 1951 was 50,348. In 1961, it had risen to 65,540. The number of households in rural areas and in urban areas for 1951 and 1961 is as follows:—

	1951	1961	*Increase over 1951*
Rural areas ..	47,275	57,229	+9,954
Urban areas ..	3,073	8,311	+5,238

The taluk-wise details of households in the district in 1961* were as follows:—

Taluk	*No. of households*		
	Rural	*Urban*	*Total*
Mercara ..	12,355	2,649	15,004
Somwarpet ..	20,078	2,957	23,035
Virajpet ..	24,796	2,705	27,501
Total ..	57,229	8,311	65,540

The number of households in the urban areas in 1961 shows an increase of more than 170 per cent over that of 1951 because, as stated earlier, in the 1961 census figures households in all the Notified Areas have also been included.

In Coorg, as elsewhere, there has been an increase of population both in the rural and urban areas. The increase in the number of households and in the population of the Municipalities of Mercara and Virajpet and of the Notified Areas is a clear indication of the drift of population from the rural to the urban areas. In the rural areas in Coorg, the increase of population by 31.43 per cent falls below the percentage of increase in the urban areas.

The reasons for this drift of population from villages to towns are many. Educational facilities available in the towns have made many parents settle in the towns. Secondly, Government servants prefer to live in the towns after their retirement. Private medical practitioners, lawyers and other people who come to eke out their living either as petty businessmen or wage earners naturally prefer the towns. Of late, small planters also have chosen to live in towns as there are amenities like club life, quick means of communication to all places in the district and outside and proper medical aid. The new Government policy towards

* The corresponding figures for these three taluks of Coorg for 1951 have not been given in the Handbook of Coorg Census, 1951, separately.

land tenure does not affect the Coorg raiyats to the point of deterring such of the people as want to settle in the towns from doing so. Their lands which are held on jamma tenure are inalienable and are generally looked after by their own family people. Therefore, there is no fear of their losing their lands by living away from them.

Movement of Population.

Emigration and immigration figures in the censuses are arrived at on the basis of the places of birth and the places of enumeration of the persons concerned. According to the 1951 census, out of the total population of the district, birth places could not be recorded in the case of only two persons. Out of the 229,403 persons whose birth places have been returned, 229,308 were born in India, 48 in countries in Asia beyond India, 40 in Europe and seven in countries of Africa. Out of the persons born in India, 163,257 were born in Coorg and 66,051 were born in other districts or States. Of these immigrants, the largest number, *i.e.*, 52,384, has come from the then Madras State. The then separate State of Mysore supplied 10,061 and the then 'B' State of Travancore-Cochin 3,234 ; 294 came from Bombay and 78 from other States or places in India. The immigrants born in India numbering 57,214 live in rural areas and the rest live in urban areas. The reason for such a large number of persons living in the rural areas is that they are either labourers in coffee estates or cardamom plantations, or workers engaged by the P.W.D. contractors. Of the immigrants from countries in Asia beyond India, 22 were found in rural areas and 26 in urban areas but of the immigrants from countries in Europe, 39 out of 40 were in the rural areas. They were either proprietors of coffee plantations or managers appointed by the owners of estates.

Emigration from Coorg on any appreciable scale is not in evidence, because the majority of the persons born in the district are agriculturists and, as such, closely attached to their cultivated lands. The bulk of this population consists of Coorgs by race and has no social or marital relationship with people outside the district. The few emigrants found outside the district either in India or in countries outside India are either employees of Government or private agencies or students prosecuting their studies.

The following table will give an idea of the number of persons born in the State and of the immigrants from outside the district and from outside India, according to the 1951 census.

District, State or country where born	The then Coorg State								
	State Total			Rural			Urban		
	Persons	*Men*	*Women*	*Persons*	*Men*	*Women*	*Persons*	*Men*	*Women*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total population	229,405	125,327	104,078	213,150	116,040	97,110	16,255	9,287	6,968
A. Born in India	229,308	125,263	104,045	213,089	115,997	97,092	16,219	9,266	6,953
1. Born in Coorg	163,257	84,253	79,004	152,888	78,783	74,105	10,369	5,470	4,899
2. States in India beyond the State of enumeration.									
Madras	52,384	33,868	18,516	48,085	31,032	17,053	4,299	2,836	1,463
Mysore	10,061	4,521	5,540	9,129	4,053	5,076	932	468	464
Other States	3,606	2,621	985	2,987	2,129	858	619	493	127
B. Countries in Asia beyond India ..	48	30	18	22	15	7	26	15	11
C. Countries in Europe	40	28	12	39	28	11	1	..	1
D. Countries of Africa	7	4	3	..	..	..	7	4	3
Birth place not returned ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	2	2	..

The 1951 census gives a list of 25 languages returned as mother tongues in the Coorg district. Of these, persons speaking Kannada as their mother tongue numbered 80,410. Though Kannada is the mother tongue of the largest single group and the language taught in schools, persons speaking Kodagu, Malayalam, Tulu, Tamil, Urdu and Konkani are considerable in number. Given below is a table of languages spoken as mother tongue by more than 1,000 persons.

Languages.

1951

Language			Number
Kannada	..	..	80,410
Kodagu	..	..	66,642
Malayalam	..	..	32,683
Tulu	..	..	21,009
Tamil	..	..	13,824
Telugu	..	..	3,927
Urdu	..	..	3,818
Konkani	..	..	3,515
Marathi	..	..	1,558
Hindustani	..	..	1,210

Only in the South-West, Coorg has a common boundary with Kerala, but as the labourers and artisans like carpenters and masons are mostly from Malabar, people of the southern half of Coorg can speak Malayalam. Non-Coorg Hindus, Muslims and Christians can also speak the Coorg or Kodagu dialect, as the majority of people in the villages are either Coorgs or communities speaking in the Coorg dialect. People in Coorg are mostly trilingual in speech. Kannada, Hindi and English are taught in schools and the younger generation have a good knowledge of Kannada, the regional language, and a fair knowledge of Hindi and English.

Even people who speak languages other than Kannada at home, can speak, read and write Kannada. Only the labourers in estates who come seasonally to Coorg from outside and the Mapilla traders from Malabar do not know Kannada.

As for the script, if we leave aside the Roman script, Kannada is the only script used for all official business and commercial purposes. But, some Tamil merchants, Mapilla traders and other Muslim cloth merchants from Bhatkal or Honnavar keep their shop accounts in their own languages and scripts. School-going children have learnt the Devanagari script but it is not used for any business.

Religion and Caste— Hindus.

Of the total population of the district, Hindus form the majority, their total number in 1951 being 199,465. The next largest community was Muslims numbering 23,062 persons. The third

largest was that of the Christians numbering 6,788 persons. Other communities in Coorg in 1951 were 54 Jains, 16 Buddhists, 9 Sikhs, 8 Zoroastrians and one non-tribal. The 1941 census figures for Hindus, Muslims and Christians were 130,753, 14,730 and 3,440, respectively. In the 1941 census, a big number of 19,803 persons are shown as "others". Except some Jains, a few Buddhists and a few Zoroastrians, all these not exceeding one hundred at the most, the persons shown under "others" in the census report should really be treated as Hindus. The community that conspicuously added to its population during the ten years from 1941 to 1951 is the Christian community with its 97 per cent increase; Muslims have increased by a little more than 56 per cent.

Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

The Scheduled Castes of Coorg comprise the following communities of people:—(1) Adi Dravida, (2) Adi Karnataka, (3) Adiya, (4) Balagai, (5) Holeya, (6) Madiga, (7) Muchi, (8) Mundala, (9) Samagara, (10) Panchama, (11) Paraya and (12) Pale. The Scheduled Tribes are (1) Korama, (2) Kudiya, (3) Kuruba, (4) Yerava, (5) Meda and (6) Martha.

Persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes in Coorg numbered 23,690 in 1951. The number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes in 1951 was 21,084. The following table gives the details as reflected by the 1961 Census.

Tract	*Scheduled Castes*			*Scheduled Tribes*		
	Persons	*Males*	*Females*	*Persons*	*Males*	*Females*
Rural ..	27,907	15,031	12,876	27,063	14,329	12,734
Urban ..	2,703	1,405	1,298	39	24	15
Total ..	30,610	16,436	14,174	27,102	14,353	12,749

The term 'Hindu' is a wide term. It cannot be defined as a belief in this or that doctrine. A common definition is that all persons who worship orthodox deities, the incarnations of Vishnu or Shiva, their wives or their off-spring, divine mothers, spirits of trees, rocks and streams and who are governed by the Hindu Law are Hindus. Gandhiji says that the beauty of Hinduism lies in its all-embracing inclusiveness.

Classified as Hindus, the following communities come under it: (1) Brahmins, (2) Coorgs, (3) Gowdas, (4) Lingayats, (5) Devangas, (6) Bilimaggas, (7) Bants, (8) Amma Coorgs, (9) Vokkaligas, (10) Heggades, (11) Scheduled Castes and (12) Scheduled Tribes.

Brahmins.

Brahmins, though very small in number, have been in Coorg from the early centuries of the Christian era. They have been

priests in the temples of Talakaveri, Bhagamandala and other temples of Coorg from early times. Later, Brahmins were brought by the Rajas of Coorg from the districts of Shimoga, Hassan, South Kanara and Mysore and induced to settle in Coorg by grants of lands and the like.

Smarthas. Among the Brahmins in Coorg, there are the Smarthas and the Madhvas, the number of others being negligible. The Smarthas derive their name from Smriti, the code of revealed or traditional law. They look upon Shiva and Vishnu as the different aspects of the supreme godhead. Philosophically, they hold the Vedanta doctrine of Advaita or non-dualism. The founder of the Smartha sect was Shankaracharya. The distinctive marks of a Smartha Brahmin are three parallel horizontal lines of pounded sandalwood or ashes of cowdung on the forehead. The Smartha Brahmins in Coorg belong to a sect called the Havikas who owe allegiance to the pontiff or Guru of the Sri Ramachandrapura matha of Nagar in Shimoga district.

Madhvas. The Madhvas follow the teachings of Madhvacharya, the founder of the sect. They profess the doctrine of Dvaita or dualism. A Madhva Brahmin is known by a black perpendicular line from the junction of the eyebrows to the top of the forehead with a dot in the centre. The followers of Madhvacharya in Coorg are the Shivalli Brahmins who speak the Tulu language. They owe allegiance to one or the other of the eight religious heads of the mathas of Udupi.

The Coorgs are the major compact community in Coorg. A detailed account of the Coorgs is given under the section " Castes and Communities ".

Lingayats. Lingayats in Coorg number only a few thousands. They numbered 5,018 in 1931. The Lingayats seem to have decreased in number during the succeeding decades. They came to Coorg from the neighbouring districts in the times of the later Changalvas and the Haleri Rajas of Coorg. They follow the teachings or writings of Basaveswara and other Shivasharanas. The wearing of a Linga on the person is the distinctive external mark of this religion.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Among the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the gods and goddesses worshipped are Kuttadamma, Karingali, Chamundi, Mariamma, Siddeswara, Basaveswara, Parindra, Kolappa and Someswara. In almost every village in Coorg, there is a place dedicated in a jungle under some big tree to these gods and goddesses. There is no priesthood attached to these shrines but the headman of each community of people in a village officiates as a priest and prays to the God, making the necessary offerings. Goats, fowls, pigs and occasionally he-buffalo

calves used to be killed in the past and offered to these spirits and demons.

Muslims.

The main sects of Muslims in Coorg are the Hindustani or Urdu-speaking Deccani Muslims, the Jamma Mapillas of Coorg, the Malayalam-speaking Mapillas of Malabar, the Labbais of Tamil Nad, the Konkani-speaking Nawayats of North Kanara and the Byaris of South Kanara and North Kanara speaking a mixture of Tulu, Kannada and Malayalam. These Muslims belong to four sects, Sheik, Sayyad, Mogul and Pathan. The Sheiks denote properly a lineal descent from Prophet Muhammad through his successors and sayyads, a descent through his son-in-law.

The essential Muhammadan beliefs are six in number—(1) in one God, Allah, (2) in angels, (3) in the Koran, (4) in the prophets of Allah, (5) in judgment, paradise and hell, and (6) in the Divine Decrees. The five primary duties called "the Five Pillars of Islam" are: (1) repetition of the creed, Kalimah, everyday, (2) prayer, (3) alms-giving, (4) fasting during the month of Ramzan and (5) pilgrimage to Mecca. Their principal festivals are Ramzan, Bakrid and Shab-e-Barat.

Christians.

Among the Christians of the district, there are both Catholics and Protestants, but the Catholics number a few thousands whereas the Protestants are only a few hundreds. As already stated before, the number of Christians has increased in Coorg during 1941 to 1951 by 97 per cent. This increase is not due to conversions alone, but partly due to immigrants from the neighbouring districts and partly owing to the increase in the number of the previously settled Christians. The Catholics of Coorg consist of Konkani-speaking, Tamil-speaking and Malayalam-speaking Christians. Konkani-speaking Catholics settled in Coorg during the Rajas' times. The Tamil-speaking Catholics came to Coorg during British times and the Syrian Christians from the former Travancore-Cochin State are immigrants during the past three decades. Protestants in Coorg speak Kannada. They are descendants of people who were converted in the last century and also of people who came from South Kanara and settled in Coorg towards the end of the last century and the beginning of this century.

Jains.

The Jains in Coorg are very small in number. They are traders and businessmen. They belong to the Digambara sect.

Castes and Communities

The principal castes and communities of the district are the following :—

Agasa.

Agasas or washermen are divided into Kannada and Kodagu-speaking washermen. The Kodagu-speaking washermen are called

Madivalas. They are descended from Malayalam washermen. They follow Coorg customs and dress in the Coorg fashion.

Airis are carpenters and blacksmiths. They came to Coorg from Malabar during the Rajas' times and settled in Coorg. They follow Coorg dress, customs and manners. **Airis.**

The following communities were immigrants from Malabar during the time of the Haleri Rajas. They were given lands on jamma tenure by the Rajas. They have adopted the Coorg language, Coorg dress, customs and ceremonies. Though originally they were following the vocations noted against their names, most of them have now taken to agriculture.

1.	Heggades	..	Cultivators.
2.	Kavadis	..	Cultivators.
3.	Kollas	..	Blacksmiths.
4.	Tattas	..	Goldsmiths.
5.	Koleyas or Kolairs	..	Builders of earth walls
6.	Koyavas	..	Potters.
7.	Bannas	..	Demon dancers.
8.	Bine Pattar	..	Musical mendicants.
9.	Malayas and Panikas	..	Demon dancers and medicine men.
10	Kanyas	..	Astrologers.

Three communities of people who originally came from Hassan or Mysore and settled in Coorg and who conform to the practices of Coorg in their mode of life, dress and customs are (1) Eimbokklus, (2) Gollas and (3) Ganigas.

Bants are a community of people belonging to Tulunad or South Kanara and also to Kasargod taluk of the Kerala State. A large number of Bants were brought from Manjeshwar, Kumbla, Bantwal and Puttur during the Rajas' times and made to settle in Coorg. Among the Bants who have settled in Coorg, there are two sects, the Masadika Bants and the Parivarada Bants. Both these sects speak Tulu. Masadika Bants follow the matriarchal form of inheritance, but the Parivarada Bants follow the patriarchal form. There are two forms of marriage. One is known as Kaidari which is performed between bachelors and virgins and the other Budhare, between widows and widowers. The marriage ceremony is performed in the house of the bride or bridegroom as may be convenient. The bride is given to the bridegroom by the 'dhare' ceremony as is done among the Brahmins. Widows are allowed to remarry. The ceremony consists simply of joining the hands of the couple. The Bants burn their dead. **Bants.**

The Billavas who were formerly toddy-drawers have also come from South Kanara and settled in Coorg. Their number is small.

Brahmins.

As already mentioned, the important sects of Brahmins in Coorg are the Havikas and the Shivallis. Though they are Smarthas and Madhvas, respectively, they eat together. Intermarriages between these two sects and among other sects of Brahmins, though not common, have taken place in some cases without any sect objecting to it. Sagotra marriages which were forbidden till a few years, have now begun to take place though they are not common. All the Brahmins of all the sects go through the sixteen samskaras or religious rites observed by the Brahmins elsewhere in the State and in other States in India. The Brahmins of Coorg are related to their community people in other districts of the State or other parts of India by matrimonial connections. The Sandhya services, the Pancha Mahayajnas, marriage ceremonies, thread ceremonies and funeral ceremonies are performed in the same manner as by other Brahmins outside the district

Coorgs.

The Coorgs are a community of people whose customs, ceremonies from birth to death, festivals, dress, language and mode of life are quite different from those of other communities among the Hindus. As the homeland of the Coorgs is Coorg, it is necessary that a detailed account of this community should be given.

The Coorgs, though they are peculiar to Coorg, are not indigenous to Coorg. They are said to have come from the north-western part of India in the early centuries of the Christian era to the west coast regions of the peninsular part and penetrated into Coorg which was then a jungle and settled there. The origin of the Coorgs is shrouded in mystery. Father Henry Heras of the St. Xaviers' Historical Research Society says that the name of the Coorgs was found in an inscription at Mohenjodaro and * Dr. Hutton gives strength to this view by saying that "it appears to be a much simpler and more satisfactory view to regard the brachycephalic stock (Coorgs) as preceding the Aryans. We may suppose them to have entered into the Indus Valley during the Mohenjodaro period and to have extended down to the west coast as far as Coorg, forming the physical basis of several of the brachycephalic or mesocephalic castes of Western India". Professor Ghurye of Bombay says that the Coorgs belong to the Indo-Scythian race. Richter, the author of the Ethnographical compendium on the castes and tribes found in the Province of Coorg, 1887, writes that the Coorgs as well as other Hindu castes and tribes found in Coorg belong

* "The Census of India" Part 1, 1931.

to the Dravidian race, but as Sir Thomas Holland describes in the journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal of 1901, the Coorgs are the finest race without any exception, in Southern India. We may perhaps conclude that they are an ancient North-Indian or Indo-Scythian race who, under some unknown circumstances, settled in Coorg. In the course of centuries, these immigrants from the north got mixed up with the people of this district and the neighbouring districts but retained their peculiar customs and ceremonies and absorbed other people into their fold. The Coorgs do not have a caste system among them. They easily admit into their fold non-Coorgs belonging to fairly high castes. Dr. Moegling wrote in 1855 that, "strangers are received among them and naturalised without difficulty, and such as have been excommunicated are received without much ado".

Religious Practices of the Coorgs.

The Coorgs have some characteristic religious practices. They have no caste system among them and, as stated already, easily absorb people of other communities, specially of high caste Hindus, into their fold. They do not owe allegiance to any religious head inside or outside the district. They do not require Brahmins to officiate as priests in any of their ceremonies, except on very special occasions. The Coorgs are Shaivites, having come under Lingayat influence during the times of the Lingayat Rajas, but they do not take the services of the Jangamas of the Lingayat sect. In Coorg, every village has a temple in which local deities of the village like Aiyappa, Povvadi and Kalamma have been installed. These deities have been assimilated to the gods and goddesses of the Hindu pantheon. In addition to these deities, almost in every village south of Suntikoppa where the Coorgs predominate, there is a temple of god Mahadeva or goddess Bhagavathi. Mahadeva is god Iswara and Bhagavathi is his consort. During the Cauvery festival and the Huttari festival, the Brahmin worshipper in the village temple visits each Coorg house in his village and purifies the house by sprinkling it with a little sacred water which he carries in a vessel. He also gives each member of the house a tiny spoonful of this water to drink. Besides the village deities, the Coorgs worship the river goddess Cauvery and god Igguthappa who is an incarnation of Subramanya, as their patron goddess and patron god, respectively During the Thula Sankramana at Talakaveri and Bhagamandala and the annual festival at Padi Igguthappa's temple near Kakkabe in Nalknad of the present Mercara taluk, thousands of Coorgs, men, women and children, resort to the temples at Talakaveri, Bhagamandala and Padi and give offerings. At Bhagamandala where the Cauvery and the stream Kannike meet, it is customary for the Coorgs to offer 'pinda' or balls of rice to their departed parents or ancestors, under the guidance of a Brahmin priest.

The Coorgs are also ancestor worshippers. Each Coorg house has a Kaimata (a small building close to the house) under a tree

in the fields or in the yard close to the house. This is a raised mud platform with a roof where carved stones representing the images of their ancestors are placed. The original ancestor of each family is called the Karana, corresponding to the Malayalam 'Karannan'. The Coorgs also worship some minor deities in their village temple or in their houses.

As soon as the Coorg boy is born, a little bow made out of a stick of the castor oil plant with an arrow made out of a leaf stalk of the same plant is put into his little hands and a gun is fired in the courtyard. He is thus, at taking his first breath, introduced into the world as a future hunter and warrior. On the twelfth day after its birth, the child, whether boy or girl, is laid in the cradle by the mother or grand-mother, who on this occasion gives it its name. Boys are given names like Belliappa, Ponnappa, Mandanna, Chinnappa, etc, and girls are given names like Puvamma, Muthamma, Ponnamma, Chinnamma, etc. Recently, the Coorgs have taken to name their boys Ramakrishna, Ramesha, Parthasarathy and girls as Kasturi, Leela, Rukmini, like other Hindus.

Funeral Ceremonies

Coorgs both bury and burn their dead. When a man or a woman dies, two shots are fired from a gun in close succession. This is the first information to the villagers. Then messages are sent round to every house of the village community. The Aruva of the family has the direction of affairs at the ceremonies.

Social Organisation.

The Coorgs have a council of elders called "Thakka Mukyastaru" who act as the moral censors of their social affairs though they are not invested with magisterial power by Government. The authority of the village Thakkas extends over offences against social customs, non-attendance at public feasts, and improper conduct during the same, as for example, drunkenness and obscene conduct. The authority of the Thakkas was effective in the past, but after the advent of the British and the spread of English education and increasing knowledge of the law, their authority has almost disappeared.

Gowdas.

The Gowdas are quite a big community in Coorg. They are mainly cultivators. They are settlers from the regions below the ghats in South Kanara. During the time of the Rajas, the taluks in South Kanara below the Western Ghats up to Puttur and a little beyond belonged to them. At that time, the Gowdas from that part of South Kanara were brought and made to settle in Coorg by grant of lands on jamma tenure. They are largely found in Padinalknad and Yedenalknad of Mercara and Virajpet taluks, respectively. The Gowdas belong to 18 balis or clans. Members of the same clan cannot intermarry.

Formerly, the Gowdas had two headmen called the Grama Gowda and the Gottu (ಗೊತ್ತು) Gowda in every village. Their duty was to settle the caste disputes. But just as the authority of the Thakkas among the Coorgs has declined after the advent of the British in Coorg, the authority of these headmen also has disappeared.

The Gowdas worship Venkataramanaswami to whom they make offerings once a year in September. They also perform ancestor-worship.

Vokkaligas.

The Vokkaligas are an agricultural community in Coorg. The ancestors of this community came from both Mysore district and Nagar taluk of Shimoga district. There are three sub-divisions and there is no inter-marriage among them. They dress as other Hindus do in the district. They bury their dead.

Devangas.

The Devangas, who are principally traders, settled in Coorg during the period of the Rajas. Their number is decreasing now.

Bilimaggas.

The Bilimaggas who were originally weavers by profession are a prosperous community in Coorg. They are found in North Coorg, north of Mercara. They are now mostly coffee planters and traders.

Amma Coorgs

The Amma Coorgs or Amma Kodagas are said to have been the indigenous priesthood, but when exactly they were priests and how they lost their priesthood are shrouded in obscurity. They wear the sacred thread and abstain from meat and alcohol. The Amma Kodagas donned the sacred thread in 1834 at the instance of a Havika Brahmin who was the treasurer of the Coorg Rajas. The name of an Amma Coorg man has the suffix 'Amma' like Aiyappamma and Muthannamma. It is said that, formerly, Amma Coorgs, who were concentrated in South Coorg used to claim kinship with a similar group of people in Wynad in Malabar. Lewis Rice says that the Amma Coorgs seem to have originally come from Malabar.

There are two gotras among them, the Bharadwaja gotra and Viswamitra gotra. They marry within the same gotra.

In dress and marriage customs, they follow the Coorgs. They worship Hindu deities and observe Hindu festivals.

They are fast dwindling in number, their number in the Census of 1931 being 666.

Vaishyas.

The Vaishyas are also called Komatis and Telugu Shettis and are found in Coorg in small numbers. They are all traders. They

follow the customs of their community people in the other parts of the State.

Scheduled Castes.

The Holeyas in Coorg are composed of the following eight endogamous groups :

1. Kembatti Holeyas
2. Kapala Holeyas
3. Maringi Holeyas
4. Edagai Holeyas
5. Balagai Holeyas
6. Martha Holeyas
7. Adiya Holeyas
8. Malaya Holeyas

Of these, the Kembatti Holeyas are the indigenous Holeyas and Kapalas and Maringis and Malayas are immigrants from Malabar. They speak the Coorg language and follow the Coorgs in their customs, dress and food habits. They have temples of their own. Marthas are from Malabar. They speak Malayalam. Edagai and Balagai Holeyas are from Mysore and speak Kannada. They worship Mariyamma. Adiyas are a very small community numbering about 200.

Medas and Madigas come under Scheduled Castes. The Medas speak the Coorg language. They are engaged in basket making. They are also agricultural labourers.

Madigas are workers in leather. But most of them have taken to agriculture for want of regular work in leather. Some of them speak Kannada and some Telugu.

Scheduled Tribes.

The Yeravas are the aborigines of Wynad from where they gradually migrated to the forests of South Coorg. They are the lowest of the jungle tribes. The Yeravas are composed of four endogamous groups, the Pangiri, the Pania, the Badava and the Kaji Yeravas. There is no inter-marriage among these groups. They worship Kuttadamma and Kali and also their ancestor spirits. They believe in magic, sorcery and witchcraft. Agriculture is the chief occupation of the Yeravas. They have no land of their own, but work for wages. They are short in stature, very dark in complexion and have curly hair, much softened by combing. The hair is tied into a knot at the top of the head, which gives them a wild and savage aspect. They have thick lips and flat noses. They conform as much as possible to the mode of life and worship of the Coorgs.

Kurubas.

The Kurubas are divided into two endogamous groups, the Jenu Kurubas and Betta Kurubas. There is neither interdining nor intermarriage between them. The Jenu Kurubas are good at

collection of honey and the Betta Kurubas are good at bamboo crafts. They speak a dialect of their own. They follow the customs of Kannada Vokkaligas. The Kurubas are dark in complexion, and have curly hair which, through neglect, becomes matted. In stature, they are middle-sized, well-proportioned and nimble in habits. Their women dress like the Kannada Vokkaligas with the folds of their sari in front. They tie their hair into a knot at the back of the head.

Male Kudiyas

The Male Kudiyas are a jungle tribe. Originally, they were the toddy-drawers in Coorg. They are composed of two endogamous groups, the Umale or Uru or Village Kudiyas and Temale Kudiyas (honey-gathering Kudiyas). Each group claims superiority over the other, with neither inter-dining nor inter-marrying. Cross cousin marriage is in vogue among them. Their disputes are settled by a few elderly members of their community. The elderly men and women are cremated. The Male Kudiyas worship the spirits of ancestors. They also worship all kinds of spirits and minor deities called Bhutas. In the past, they used to have their demon dances and sacrifices in the dark recesses of the forests called 'Mala Tirike', or jungle shrine, their Bhutas being Thammayya and Malatampuran. Once a year, they have a feast in honour of their ancestors. They now work as labourers in paddy fields, cardamom plantations and coffee estates. They are found in Bhagamandalanad, Napoklunad and Virajpetnad. They conform as much as circumstances permit, to the mode of life, dress, dialect, and social and religious customs of the Coorgs to whom they look up as their masters.

Inter-caste relations.

Inter-caste relations are very cordial in matters like village festivals, agricultural operations and in festivals like the Keil Muhurtha and Huttari. Almost every Hindu community in the village has some work entrusted to it in the conduct of the village festival. In the transplantation and the harvesting of crop in the paddy fields, people of all the communities in the village from the highest to the lowest work side by side Coorg gowdas eat in each other's houses and other communities socially considered inferior to these communities eat in the houses of the Coorgs and the gowdas People of all communities and the native Christians eat in the houses of the Brahmins, but in places assigned to them. They eat separately from the Brahmins. In festivals like the Keil Muhurtha and Huttari, all the villagers join together on the village green and participate in the festivities. In case of death in a family, all the villagers irrespective of caste or creed render whatever assistance they are capable of to the members of the bereaved family.

New religion leaders and movements.

There have been no great religious leaders in Coorg, but some people belonging to the Hindu communities have become disciples of Sri Sai Baba of Puttaparthi in Ananthapur district and some of Sri Rama Devi of Mangalore.

Caste Government.

In the old days, every community had its headmen called by various names—Thakka, Yejamana, Gurikara and Gottu Gowda, who were settling caste disputes in their assembly. But the spread of education and the advent of the official class in every community and the non-recognition of the headmen's authority in case of appeals to the Government against their authority, have all undermined the status and the hold of the headmen over the communities. The headmen's authority is only nominal now.

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance.

All the Hindu communities in the district are governed by the Hindu Law, inheritance being wholly in the male line. But the Coorgs, though Hindus, are governed in some respects by their law called the Coorg Civil Law. Among the Coorgs, permanent tenures of land, mortgages and terminable leases are all classified in the same manner as in the Hindu Law. Property is distinguished according as it is ancestral or self-acquired. The Yejaman or managing head of the house is called Koravakara. Other members of the family are called 'Kikkararu'. All property acquired by them without any aid from the ancestral funds is considered self-acquired. Any property so acquired by the head of the house is not allowed to be considered self-acquired, in order to prevent abuse of his position as head of the house. Self-acquisitions among the Coorgs and the communities following their customs did not exist in the old days. The very concept of separate property of a member of the joint family is of recent growth. In the past, no separate property was inherited by the members of the family. But now, the Coorgs acquire property from their own earnings. They have the right to alienate such self-acquired property without the consent of the Koravakara or other members of the family. The children inherit his self-acquired property.

As regards the right of inheritance, there was a peculiar custom among the Coorgs. If there was no male heir to succeed to the property, a daughter was retained to represent the name of the family, and a husband was secured for her from another house. The husband did not become alienated from his own family, but could take a wife from his own family also, thus raising seed for both houses. These marriages took place expressly for the purpose at the time and the arrangement could not be made after the marriage. This was termed amongst the Coorgs as "Makka Parije" —marriage for the rights of the children. The children of such a marriage possessed only the rights of inheritance in the family of the mother and none in the family of the father, unless no heirs whatever were to be found in his own family. The wife of such a marriage could not be forced to leave her own house and reside in

the family of her husband. In like manner, the children born to such a husband by the wife of his own house possessed rights in that house unless there were no heirs in the other house.

Adoption.

The Coorgs do adopt sons but not for the same reasons as the other Hindus. The married Coorg has no idea or dread of the place of torment 'Putt', he has to go to. if he has no son to perform his funeral obsequies. He merely adopts to prevent the extinction of his house or for the inheritance of his self-acquired property. This adoption is not called 'Dattu'(ದತ್ತು) as amongst the other Hindus, but is termed 'Sambandha Koduvudu' (ಸಂಬಂಧ ಕೊಡುವುದು) which signifies the giving the rights of joining or of inheritance. The married Coorg who has become sonless by the death of his son or sons may also adopt without prejudice to the rights of any male relatives in the family. Near relations include the divided members to the third generation.

Rights of a daughter.

Under the Coorg Customary Law, a daughter had only the right of maintenance from the properties of her father till her marriage, and after her marriage, she had no right either of share or of inheritance in the properties of her father.

Alienation of Property.

Ancestral property ordinarily cannot be alienated among the Coorgs. The consent of all the major members of the family and the permission of the Government are necessary for such alienation. And even the Government generally does not accord permission, unless it is shown that such alienation is for some valid purpose. Therefore, in order to overcome all such difficulties, most of the Coorgs release their rights in favour of one or more of their family members. For such release, neither the consent of the family members nor the permission of the Government is necessary.

Wet lands in Coorg were granted by the former Rajas and the early British administration of Coorg on jamma tenure or umbli tenure at half the usual assessment and one-third assessment, respectively. But these lands were given on condition that the raiyats should render free military and other services to the rulers. Jagir lands were given to people for some meritorious service to the Rajas or the British; jamma, umbli and jagir lands were given to all the communities in Coorg irrespective of caste or religion. These lands are not alienable without the permission of the Government and all the members of the family should consent in writing for such alienation. Generally, however, such alienations do not take place.

The other communities in Coorg, whether Hindus, Muhammadans or Christians, follow the laws followed by their co-religionists in the other parts of India in the ownership of property, its inheritance and alienation. In the matter of adoption too, they follow the practice prevailing in the other parts of the country.

Joint Family System.

During the rule of the Rajas and during the early British times, the joint family system was common among all the communities in Coorg. Big-family houses with an open square in the middle, inside the building, and with habitable quarters on all the sides except the front portion of the house reserved for an open verandah, were the pattern in those days. Even now some such old houses exist in Coorg. Tradition has it that sometimes twenty to thirty babes in the cradle were found in these family houses. In the old days, it was not customary among Coorgs to acquire or hold land and houses separately. Since about 1805, however, some families quarrelled and appealed to the Rajas who directed that they should, in accordance with the Hindu Law, be allowed to divide. Subsequent to British assumption of the Government of Coorg, several other families applied to the courts, and obtained decrees for partition. But in 1858, the Thakkas and headmen of the Coorgs represented the loss and ruin occasioned to their ancient houses by this innovation, and the Judicial Commissioner, in additional Special Appeal Suit No 117 of 1858-59 passed a decree, declaring that the division was contrary to the ancient custom of the Coorgs and, ever since, division (legally) has been strictly interdicted.

But almost from the beginning of this century, the joint family system among all the communities in Coorg is losing its hold on society. Reasons for this state of affairs are obviously many. The spread of English education among the people and the employment opportunities among young men made them leave their ancestral houses and reside in the places of their work. The individualistic and selfish tendency of the male members of the joint family and the inability of its female members to live under the same roof are the common and age-old reasons for the break-up of the joint families. But the ignorance of the people had kept the people of the same family together and when they became enlightened with the spread of education, this tendency became prominent even among the people living in the villages. They began to live separately with their wives and children near their fields, cultivating their share of the family lands, but allowing the head of the family to be the pattedar or document-holder of the whole family land. This practice continues to this day.

Marriage and Morals.

Before giving an account of the marriage and morals among the different communities, it may be appropriate to give an idea of the traditional restrictions on marriage among the communities. A man must not marry ouside the limits of his caste and if he is a member of a sub-caste, he may not marry outside the particular sub-caste. In the same caste where gotras or septs prevail, the rule is that the bride and the bridegroom should not belong to the same gotra (or sept). As elsewhere in the State and outside, many of these exogamous groups among the Brahmins

are generally eponymous, each group or gotra being supposed to consist of the descendants of one or the other of the Vedic Rishis. Gotras with similar names are found among a few other castes like Vaishyas and goldsmiths.

Maternal Uncle's Place.

In Coorg, among the Brahmins and communities like Vaishyas and Devangas, who follow Brahminical customs in certain things, the maternal uncle has the right to ask his sister's daughter for his son, but the practice of asking for his sister's daughter for himself is not in practice in Coorg. Among the Brahmins and some other castes, the bride is brought to the marriage pandal by her maternal uncle.

Marital Age.

Pre-puberty marriage was in practice only among the Brahmins before the passing of the Sarda Act in 1930. Since then Brahmins also marry their girls after they have attained puberty. Among the Coorgs, Gowdas, Vokkaligas and other communities, girls were being married generally after the age of sixteen. At present, girls are marriageable upto any age, and no reflection is cast upon them for not marrying. Those who prefer it, may remain old maids. But usually, parents prefer to give their daughters in marriage between the years 18 to 25. The marriageable age for boys in Coorg is now between 25 to 30.

Forms of Marriage.

The principal Brahmin communities who have lived there for generations and who own landed interests are the Havika Brahmins and the Shivalli Brahmins. The former originally came from Shimoga district and the latter from South Kanara district. There are a few Madhva Brahmin families living in Coorg whose original home was Hassan district. Among the Brahmins of all sects and the other communities following them, the universal rule is to give away the bride as a gift to a suitable bridegroom. There was only a nominal *varadakshine* or dowry of one to five rupees; but among a few sects of Brahmins, the dowry system as it existed in the neighbouring districts of Mysore and Hassan was prevalent to a certain extent. Rich parents may help their sons-in-law to pursue their higher studies or to settle in life.

Among the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes of Yeravas, Kurubas, Male Kudiyas and different sects of Harijans in Coorg, it is the bride that has to be paid for. The amount of bride-price varies with each caste from one 'Hana' or about three annas to eight rupees. This bride-price is fixed by age-old custom.

Among the Coorgs, there is no bride-price as such, but the bridegroom presents the bride a small bag containing silver or gold coins before he takes her to his house.

Marriage ceremonies—Yeravas.

A man marries the daughter of his mother's brother or father's sister. The Yerava youths have no voice in the choice of a maid for a wife. The parents negotiate for the marriage of the sons. When a boy attains marriageable age and a suitable girl is found, the boy's parents and the headman of the tribe (Kanaladi) take the marriage badge (ತಾಳಿ), a sari, and the articles necessary for their food to the hut of the bride-elect. They prepare the food, light an oil lamp and offer sacrifice to the gods, Kuttadamma and Gulikan, with coconut and bananas. Some rice is also placed in a sieve. The maid's Kanaladi asks them the object of their visit. The young man's Kanaladi says that they have come to propose the marriage of their young man, and the maid is produced before them. They then pray to God to help them in the celebration of the marriage. The Kanaladi of the bridegroom-elect ties the 'tali' around the girl's neck, and gives the sari to her with one 'hana' (three annas). The maid's Kanaladi fixes the date of marriage (Mangala Kurippu). The betrothal takes place a month before marriage to the celebration of which both the Kanaladis should consent.

On an auspicious day prior to the celebration of the marriage, the relatives of the bride and bridegroom assemble in the respective families. Ancestors are worshipped. The night is spent merrily by beat of drum and the tuning of pipes for dancing. On the day of marriage, the young man is bathed, neatly dressed and adorned and is conducted in procession to the marriage pandal. He is seated on a tripod a foot high. A lamp is lit before him His mother and other married women throw rice on him as a token of blessings and present him with a few coins. Then other guests give him presents. In the evening, the bridegroom's party starts in procession to the bride's hut so as to reach it before day-break They halt near the residence of the bride-elect, where they are welcomed by the bride's party with light refreshments. They are conducted to the marriage pandal in front of the hut of the bride. As the bridegroom-elect enters the pandal, an elderly woman washes his feet. He is then seated on a tripod. The gods of both the parties are propitiated with parched rice, coconut and bananas. The bridegroom and bride are then made to stand together and the gods are invoked to witness the ceremony and bless them, when the assembled guests throw rice on them and give them presents. The Kanaladi then asks the bridegroom to hold the hand of the bride. After a festive meal, the bridegroom and his party return to their place with the bride. Consummation takes place the same night.

Jenu Kurubas

Among the Jenu Kurubas, the boy's party goes to the girl's hut with betel leaves, coconuts and bananas to settle the marriage. After settling the terms of the agreement, the date of marriage is fixed. The boy's party pay a 'hana' to the girl's party and take leave of them.

There are two forms of marriage among Jenu Kurubas. One is similar to that of the Vokkaligas. The marriage pandal is constructed with twelve poles on an auspicious day. The ancestor worship also takes place the same day. On the following day, the bridegroom is bathed and dressed and led in procession to the marriage pandal, where he is seated on a tripod. Presents are given to him by his parents, friends and relatives after which all are treated to a grand feast. The bridegroom and party then start, in procession, to the hut of the bride-elect, where they are warmly welcomed. The bridegroom is seated in one room and the bride in another. The *Dhara* (ಧಾರೆ) ceremony then takes place after which the bride is tied with a '*tali*' (marriage badge) round her neck. They are then allowed to live as husband and wife.

The other form of marriage is the simple one of exchange of betel leaves and arecanuts which concludes the nuptials. The bride is also presented with two wedding costumes and a few necklets of glass beads.

Betta Kurubas.

The marriage ceremonies are simple, sensible and orderly. On the wedding day, the bridegroom's party go to the bride's hut, eat there, and the parents bless the young couple by putting raw rice on their heads. They then return with the bride to the bridegroom's hut and this concludes the ceremony.

Male Kudiyas.

On the wedding day, the bridegroom is bathed, and adorned and is conducted in procession to the marriage pandal where he is seated on a tripod, when his mother and other relatives throw rice on his head and give him presents. After the wedding meal, the party of the bridegroom goes in procession to the bride's hut with a basket of rice, betel leaves, arecanut, coconut, milk, jaggery and one 'hana'. They first sit near a place where the bride's party plants stumps of plantain trees. The bridegroom has to cut the plantain stumps with a broad sword. Then the bridegroom's party is served with light refreshments after which the bride and the bridegroom are seated in the marriage pandal side by side, on tripods. After the presents are given by the assembled relatives and guests and they are fed, the bridegroom stands and gives a purse of coins to the bride, and clasping her hand, helps her to stand up Then the bridegroom returns with the bride and his party to his house. On the same night, the nuptials take place and this concludes the ceremony.

Harijans.

The Kembatti Holeyas are the indigenous Harijans of Coorg. The Kapalas who are a little higher than the Kembatti Holeyas in the social hierarchy, were originally immigrants from Malabar. Both these communities have their marriage customs and ceremonies just like those of the Male Kudiyas.

The Paleyas or Harijans, who have come from South Kanara and settled in Coorg, have very simple marriage customs. The bride is presented with a piece of cloth and money. On donning the cloth, she is considered married and goes to the bridegroom's house.

The Kannada-speaking Harijans of Coorg observe the '*dhara*' ceremony and other customs which prevail among the Vokkaligas of Mysore.

Coorgs.

The marriage customs and ceremonies of the Coorgs are peculiar and are not found among any other community in the State. When a young man expresses his desire to marry, his father or his elder brother with a friend of the family who is called 'Aruva' (ಅರುವ or [illegible]) goes to the house of the young woman, where their arrival is expected. A lamp is lit, when the Aruvas on both sides, with prominent members of the two families, stand before it facing each other and shake hands in token of an inviolable contract having been concluded. The day for the wedding is fixed in consultation with the local astrologer. On the day previous to the wedding day, the marriage pandals are put up in both the bridegroom's and bride's houses. On the wedding day, in both the houses, the bride and the bridegroom will be bathed and dressed in their national dress.

In the bridegroom's house, the wedding party proceeds to the Kaimata or the place where the ancestors are worshipped, which will of course be near the house, carrying a light which has been kindled at the sacred house lamp and ignites an earthen lamp there and invokes the blessings of the ancestors. On returning to the house at the auspicious hour, the bridegroom is seated on a low three-legged stool placed upon a carpet between two lighted lamps. On the bridegroom being seated, the master of the house takes a handful of rice and strews it over his head and shoulders uttering the words "live well, and prosper well by God's favour", gives him a sip of milk and drops a piece of money or other present in his lap. Four men closely related to him do likewise. Then five of the nearest female relations including the mistress of the house repeat the same formalities. The other assembled guests and friends give presents to the bridegroom. The same ceremony is gone through in the bride's house at about the same time. Nearest relations, guests and friends on both sides are invited for the day's function and are sumptuously fed.

In the afternoon, the bridegroom's party go to the bride's house, which may perhaps be some miles away. Sometimes, the bridegroom's and the bride's houses may be in the same town. When the bridegroom comes to the gate of the bride's house, he has to cut through a plantain stem with one blow from a large Coorg war-knife. The bridegroom is then received by his parents-

in-law. After refreshments, the bride is conducted by her maids over an out-spread cloth into the bridal chamber where she is seated on a low stool. The bridegroom's party approach her and repeat the ceremony of rice-throwing which was performed at noon by the bride's relations. The bridegroom, who is seated on a low stool all along, is conducted to the bridal chamber and is seated to the right of the bride, when the assembled elders strew rice on their heads. Then the bridegroom stands in front of the bride, strews some grains of rice upon her head, gives her a little milk to drink and, taking her hand, bids her rise. He leads her into the outer room of the house. Thus, the daughter takes leave of the house of her birth. After this, the bridegroom's party returns to the bridegroom's house with the bride. The guests are again feasted. Then the Aruva of the husband's party conducts bride and bridegroom into their own room and the marriage ceremony is over.

Among the Gowdas, Devangas and Bants, there is the 'dhara' ceremony which is performed in the house of the bride. They observe ceremonies observed by the people of their community in the other districts of the State.

The following communities of people were immigrants from Malabar during the period of the Rajas. They have adopted the Coorg language and follow Coorg customs. These communities are Heggades, Airis, Kavadis, Kollas, Thattas, Koleyas, Koyavas, Bannas, Malayas, Gollas, Kanyas and Ganigas.

Brahmins.

Among the Brahmins, there is practically no difference in the customs and ceremonies observed and performed in Coorg and outside, for they have their relations outside the district and have matrimonial alliances with them. The marriage takes place usually at the bride's residence or occasionally in a temple. After the arrival of the bridegroom at the bride's place, the important ceremonies are Varapuja or the honouring of the bridegroom by the bride's parents, Nandi or inviting the ancestors of the bridal couple, Kankana Dharana, symbolising the couple's entry into the married state, Akshata or the throwing of a few grains of reddened rice by the couple on each other's head and also by the assembled relatives over the couple, giving of the bride by her parents to the bridegroom and the tying of the Mangalasutra followed by Lajahoma and Saptapadi which marks the completion of the marriage.

Lingayats.

Among the Lingayats, there is no use of fire as is the case among the Brahmins, but the place of fire is taken by the *Panchakalashas* representing the five gotrakaras of the Lingayats. The marriage is performed in the house of either of the parties. All the details of the marriage ceremony including the Varapuja take place after the *Kalashasthapana* is over. The most important part of the marriage ceremony is the tying of

the *Mangalasutra* by the bridegroom round the neck of the bride. The priest then invokes divine blessings and all the relations and guests present throw grains of rice on the couple and bless them.

Among the communities and castes professing Hinduism, marriage customs and ceremonies which were very rigid, formal and elaborate till one or two decades ago, are becoming simplified. Marriages which were being celebrated for full five days among many communities, particularly among the Brahmins, are now being completed in one day or at the most two days.

Muslims.

Formal proposals for marriage come from the bridegroom's father and if accepted, the bridegroom's people discuss and settle with the bride's party, details of the marriage gifts to be given on the occasion. The *mahr* which is a special gift to be given by the husband to the wife varies according to the status and financial position of the bridegroom Then the formal engagement ceremony takes place, generally at the bride's place in the presence of friends and relatives and the day of marriage is fixed.

On the day of the marriage, the groom goes in procession to the bride's house and is received with every mark of respect. The *Kazi* brings the marriage register in which an entry is made of the contract. Two witnesses, one from each side, have to be present. The *Kazi*, after ascertaining the consent of the bride asks the people present whether they agree for the *nikha* to be read. After obtaining the signatures of the bridegroom, the bride's father and the witnesses, the *Kazi* reads out the *nikha* and invokes the blessings of the Holy Prophets. Sweets are distributed to the assembled people and the relatives and friends are treated to a festive meal The *nikha* is followed by another ceremony which is called *Jalwa* when the bridegroom sees the bride for the first time. Later, that night the groom after receiving presents from the bride's parents, takes his wife to his house where the assembled guests are treated to a dinner and the nuptials are held.

The Jamma Mapillas are the descendants of the people of Coorg who had been carried away to Srirangapatna by Tippu Sultan and converted to Islam. A few thousands of these people escaped from Srirangapatna during the British attack and returned to Coorg. They, besides the Islamic rites, continue to follow many of the marriage customs which their forefathers had followed before their conversion.

Though divorce is allowed among all sects of Muslims, cases of divorce are rare.

Christians

The number of Konkani-speaking Catholic Christians in Coorg is considerable and among them proposals for marriage come from the boy's parents generally, but occassionally from the girl's

parents. After agreement is reached and preliminaries about the dowry and other details are settled, a formal betrothal ceremony takes place in the bride's house when the groom pledges his troth and both are blessed by the priest and the elders. An announcement of this engagement is made on three successive Sundays in the parish churches of the bridegroom and the bride and valid objections, if any, to this marriage are asked to be made known. On the eve of the wedding day, the groom and the bride are applied with coconut-milk and oil and are given a bath in their respective houses.

On the wedding day, the bridegroom after receiving the blessings of the elder members of his household and guests, reaches the church accompanied by his bestman and party, a little before the bride's party reaches it and sits on a seat near the altar. The bride clad in white after similarly receiving the blessings of her elders leaves her house accompanied by her party and goes to the church where she is led to the altar by her father or any other elder male member of the family. The priest asks both the groom and the bride separately whether they wish to be married according to the rites of the Catholic Church. When both answer in the affirmative, the ring is blessed and given to the groom who puts it on the ring finger of the bride. The priest joins the right hands of the couple saying "I join you in matrimony in the name of the Father and Son and the Holy Ghost" and sprinkles holy water. This ceremony is followed by the Mass during which two special prayers are recited invoking God's blessings on the couple. The couple sign their names in the register and two witnesses for each side also affix their signatures. Meanwhile, the church bells peal joyfully. Later, a reception is held at some suitable place to celebrate the occasion.

Among the Tamil Christians, the auspicious necklace or *thali* is tied by the bridegroom round the neck of the bride in the church during the marriage ceremony Other customs followed by them are similar to those followed by the Konkani Christians except that the brides from orthodox Tamil families are led to the altar by the elder ladies of the family and not by the father as in the case above.

Among the Protestants, after the proposals are accepted by the girl's parents and the marriage is agreed to, a day is fixed for the engagement. On that day, the prospective bridegroom comes to the house of the girl and there, in the presence of the pastor, puts the engagement ring on the third finger of the girl's hand and the girl also puts a ring on the boy's finger. The guests are treated to a dinner by the girl's parents. The engagement is announced in the church on three successive Sundays and the marriage is fixed on a day after the third announcement. On the day of the marriage, after the parties have arrived at the church,

the ceremony begins with a hymn and at its conclusion, the pastor addresses the couple and asks them if they are willing to wed each other. After they have given their consent, the pastor reads an appropriate passage from the Bible. The groom puts a gold ring on the bride's finger. The right hands of the couple are joined and the pastor blesses them saying "I now pronounce you man and wife, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen" and preaches a little sermon of advice to the couple in particular and the congregation in general and invokes God's blessings. Hymns are sung followed by the final prayer and benediction. The couple then go to the sacristy and sign their names in a register. These are witnessed by friends or relatives from each side. The pastor also puts his signature as a witness or as one who conducted the marriage. The couple leave the sacristy and walk down the aisle of the church, hand in hand, while the wedding march is played. Later, the wedding reception is held at a suitable place.

The Tamil Protestant Christians use the *thali* instead of the ring.

Inter-sect and Inter-caste marriages.

Inter sect marriages among the Brahmins have now begun to take place without much frowning on the part of the heads of the families.

Inter-caste marriages among non-Brahmin Hindus in Coorg and particularly among the Coorgs are becoming common. Men and women who have gone out of Coorg either for employment or education have some times married persons outside their community. Among the Coorgs, if a male member marries a non-Coorg woman, she is freely accepted as a member of the Coorg fold.

Civil marriages.

Civil marriages under the Special Marriages Act of 1954 have also taken place in Coorg, though such marriages are not common. The figures given below show the number of civil marriages in Coorg from 1954 to June 1963.

Year	*Number of Civil Marriages*
1954-55	5
1955-56	22
1956-57	11
1957-58	20
1958-59	18
1959-60	15
1960-61	8
1961-62	13
1962-63	13
April to end of June 1963	7

It is significant that civil marriages have been registered only by persons belonging to the Hindu religion. There has not been a single case of registered marriage among the Christians or Muslims.

Divorce.

Marriage being a religious sacrament among the orthodox Hindus, divorce as such does not exist amongst them. Among the Coorgs, Gowdas, Kurubas, Harijans and some other non-Brahmin communities, divorce is both simple and easy. Divorces may be brought about for infidelity on the part of the wife or incompatibility of temper between the parties or loss of caste by either party. In either case, the wife has to give back to her husband the *thali* tied round her neck on the occasion of the marriage and also the jewels presented to her by her husband. Now, the law also provides for divorce among all Hindu communities. But, though custom permits and the law provides for divorces, it may be said to the credit of the people living in this district that divorces are rare.

Monogamy and Polygamy.

Monogamy is the practice among the Hindus and the Christians. But there have been cases among the high caste Hindus of some of them taking a second wife in the life time of the first wife, mostly for the failure of the first wife to bear a child. Such cases have been rare and after the enactment of the Hindu Marriages Act in 1955, bigamy or polygamy has been prohibited by law.

Though taking more than one wife is allowed among the Muslims, they too practise monogamy.

Marriage of Widows.

There is no marriage of widows among the Brahmins, Vaishyas, Devangas, Bilimaggas and Telugu Banajigas who consider marriage as a religious sacrament. Among the Coorgs and many other Hindu communities in Coorg, widows are free to remarry. Among the Coorgs and other communities following their customs and speaking their language, if the deceased husband's brother chooses to marry the widow, he may do so or she may be married to any other man in the community. She acquires rights of the second husband and relinquishes all interest in her late husband's property, but not in her children. The second marriage is celebrated in a quiet manner and only the nearer relatives and some of the villagers are invited to the marriage feast. The strewing of rice and other ceremonies are dispensed with. After the removal of the signs of widowhood, the bride appears in the apparel of a married life.

Among the Yeravas and Kurubas, on the day fixed for the remarriage of the widow, the man goes to her hut with relatives and friends and invokes gods for blessings, and ties a *tali* round her neck and gives her one 'hana' or three annas. Thereafter, they become husband and wife.

Polyandry does not exist in Coorg.

Economic dependence of women and their place in society.

Generally speaking, the women of Coorg, except perhaps the wage-earning workers in the coffee, rubber and tea plantations, are economically dependent on their men. Recently, however, educated women have taken up employment in large numbers either as clerks, teachers, hospital nurses or doctors. They retain their employment even after they get married and supplement their husbands' earnings with their own.

Female literacy in Coorg according to the 1961 census is about 28 per cent, the highest among all the districts in the State. Therefore, women occupy an important place in society. They run Mahila Samajas successfully almost in every important village of Coorg. They are members of the Village Panchayat committees. They take keen interest in all progressive movements.

Prostitution and traffic in women.

Social evils like prostitution and traffic in women are not in evidence in Coorg. There has not been any community of prostitutes in Coorg at any time. As the general level of culture and education among the women of Coorg was higher than that in the neighbouring districts and as the people were economically well off, women knew their rights and were treated well in the family. Therefore, traffic in women was an unheard of thing in Coorg.

Drinking and Gambling.

Drinking and gambling have been prohibited by law, but these evils exist to a greater or lesser extent in almost all parts of the district. Gambling is found mostly in towns and coffee estates, among the petty traders and estate mazdoors.

Martial traditions of the people.

The people of Coorg are known for their martial traditions and valour. In the times of the Rajas, they distinguished themselves in the depredatory wars against the neighbouring countries or districts and in the hunting expeditions within the district. Coorg being a hilly and forest district, wild game was abundant in the old days and Chikka Vira Rajendra says in an inscription of 1822 that he killed large numbers of elephants, antelopes, deer, wild boars and cheetas. Linga Rajendra says that in one year the number of tigers he killed was more than the number of days in the year. People who followed the Rajas in the hunting expeditions and depredatory wars showed great valour. Two Male Kudiyas, Chetti Kudiya and Kartu Kudiya, were known as the best marksmen at the time of the last Raja of Coorg.

A large number of men from this district has now been serving in the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force with distinction, besides many men in other high ranks. Coorg offers a good recruiting ground for the Army, Navy and Air Force. In the time of the Rajas, Coorgs, Lingayats, Brahmins, Gowdas

Vokkaligas and Muslims successfully led the armies to the battle fields.

The women of Coorg are not wanting in physical valour. They go alone to their fields away from their houses, talk to strangers boldly when spoken to and manage their households and servants firmly. They are good workers in the fields and the gardens and walk long distances without signs of exertion.

Home Life

Types of dwellings.

Comparatively speaking, the standard of life in Coorg is fairly high. The houses of the people, except of the very poor classes, are tiled and spacious with well-lighted and well-ventilated rooms. In the villages, houses are located in the midst of plantations or near the paddy fields. A paved courtyard is surrounded by cattle sheds, store rooms and out-houses in front of which is the main building, sometimes quadrangular in shape and is raised about three feet from the ground. There is an open square hall in the centre known as '*nadu mane*', the four sides of which are provided with rooms for the inmates. In front of the building, there is an open verandah which is the reception hall. It is raised and covered with a wooden plank called *Aimara* in the Coorg dialect, two or three feet broad, so as to form convenient seats for the male members and visitors. The floor is well-beaten with mud and cleaned with cowdung. In recent times, the floor of the house is being concrete cemented. The ceiling is of wood arranged in small compartments. In some houses, the verandah is separated from the inner hall by a wall, with a sort of window or lattice made of wood. On the right side of the verandah, there is a main door leading into the inner hall.

The houses of the poorer classes of people are smaller with thatched roofs but the rooms though small are well-lighted and ventilated.

The houses of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are low-roofed and dark. But, the Government are giving them tiles and money for the purchase of housing materials and enabling them to build decent houses. Government have colonised some Scheduled Tribes in groups of tiled houses built for them in their own villages.

Each village has a temple dedicated to Mahadeva or Bhagavathi. In North Coorg, where Lingayats are in larger numbers, temples dedicated to Basaveswara or Virabhadra are found. In the temples of Mahadeva or Bhagavathi, Brahmins are the priests, while in the Lingayat temples, Lingayats are the priests. In the villages where the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled

Tribes live in fairly good numbers, temples dedicated to Mariyamma, Kuttadamma and Karingali are found.

In the towns, well-built tiled houses have been constructed. As the district has a heavy rainfall, terraced buildings are very rare. Most of the buildings are roofed with Mangalore tiles. The houses in the towns range from small low-roofed dwellings of the poor classes to the well-designed and elegantly constructed bungalows of the rich. The middle class and rich people have sufficiently big houses, often with an upper storey roofed with Mangalore tiles.

Furniture.

Excepting the houses of the poorer classes, those of the other classes are well-furnished with chairs, tables, sofas, almirahs and wooden cots with supports to hang mosquito curtains. Every house has a drawing room furnished with a round table adorned with a flower vase, cushioned chairs and some times sofas. Wooden shelves are fixed to the walls in every room to keep ornamental ware and utensils. Excepting the Brahmins and Lingayats, others take their tiffin or lunch from plates placed on tables and seated either on benches or chairs. Brahmins and Lingayats sit on wooden planks called 'mane' in Kannada, on the floor and eat from plantain leaves or plates placed on the floor in front of them.

Decorations.

Old houses have door frames and shutters decorated or carved with flowers and creepers. Modern houses have plain door frames and shutters. Brahmins and other non-Coorg Hindu communities decorate the yard in front of their houses with 'Rangavalli', generally on festive days and ceremonial occasions.

Dress.

The Coorgs have their own characteristic dress, both for men and women. The dress of a Coorg man consists of a long coat of dark coloured cloth, open in front and reaching below the knees. The sleeves end below the elbow and show the arms of a white shirt which is generally of the English pattern. This is folded and confined at the waist by a red or blue sash of cotton or silk, which is several times wound round the waist, and knotted at the left front. On the right front, the Coorg short knife is stuck to the sash, showing an ivory or silver handle and fastened with silver chains. A peculiarly fashioned turban, which is large and flat at the top and covers a portion of the back of the neck forms the head dress. This is the dress of the Coorg men on festive occasions and at marriage ceremonies. In the old days this was their daily dress, but instead of a turban, they used to wear a big kerchief, one end of which covered a portion of the back of the neck and reached up to the upper part of the back. After the advent of the British planters in Coorg during the middle of the last century, the upper class of Coorgs came in contact with them and began to dress themselves in European

fashion. Gradually, other Coorgs and other people began to wear the shirt, coat and trousers of the English pattern as also shoes or boots with socks or stockings. At home, they wear a shirt and trousers or shorts and put on light sandals to protect their feet.

The Coorg women's dress consists of a white or coloured cotton or silk jacket with long sleeves fitting tight and close up to the neck. The skirt is white muslin or any coloured cotton or silk stuff wrapped several times round and tied at the waist by a string. One end is brought over the bosom and knotted on the right shoulder. The other end is arranged into folds which, contrary to the fashion of other Hindu women, are gathered behind. The head is covered with a white muslin or coloured kerchief, one end of which encircles the forehead and the four corners are joined together at the back, allowing the ends to fall over the shoulders.

Communities described in the section "Castes and Communities" as following the Coorg customs and mode of life, dress in the Coorg fashion.

English-educated people of all communities including the Muslims and Christians wear clothes in the European fashion when they attend offices or go out on business. The older generation of the non-Coorg Hindu communities wear the dhoti in *kachche* style, a shirt and close coat and put on some sort of turban or cap on their heads. Brahmins wear the dhoti in *kachche* style and put on shirts and coats and wear turbans on their heads on festive occasions. At home, many of them wear a white cotton dhoti in lungi style and a shirt.

Women of all communities in Coorg who do not follow the Coorg mode of dress and life, dress in the Mysore Kannada fashion with the folds of the sari gathered in front. They wear a tight-fitting short bodice called 'Kuppasa' which covers the upper part of the body leaving the arms, neck and throat bare. The 'sire' or sari, a long sheet of cloth in different kinds of colour, with borders, is wrapped round the lower part of the body coming down to the ankle. One end of this is gathered into a large bunch of folds in front while the other, passing across the bosom, hangs freely over the left shoulder or is taken over the right shoulder also, so as to cover the upper part more fully. The dress of the girls consists of a 'lange' or skirt and a blouse.

Among the Muhammadans, the Mapillas and Labbais, who claim descent from the Arab traders of old, wear a white or striped cloth in lungi style and put on a shirt and cap. Mapilla women put on a jacket covering the upper part of the body and arms up to the wrist and tie a red or other coloured cloth round

the waist and reaching up to the ankle in the lungi style. They wear silver ankle chains.

The Urdu-speaking Muslim men wear shirts and long loose drawers. Some wear coats. They have as headwear fez caps or fur caps.

The Yeravas and Kurubas wear a loin cloth reaching up to their knees and shirts often given by their employers. The women dress in the Coorg fashion.

Ornaments.

Ornaments are worn by women of all communities, according to their status and economic position. The richness of the ornaments worn by a woman is indicative of the status of the family. Coorg women and women of all other communities including Muslims and Christians wear glass, silver or gold bangles. Their necks are adorned with necklaces or chains of coral, pearls or gold. The chains worn by Coorg ladies sometimes have old Portuguese gold coins attached to them. But, these are now going out of fashion. All women have ornaments for the nose and the ears. They wear gold rings or rings set with precious stones on their fingers and silver rings on their toes. The bridal dress of a Coorg maiden adds to all this finery a many-coloured shawl which covers the body, and, in the absence of a kerchief, golden hair ornaments like the Chaurigubbi and Shavantige flower are worn. Coorg women adorn their head kerchiefs with skilled embroidery work. They use red marking cotton or silk and their patterns are very complicated and elegant and are equally visible on both sides of the dress. The young Coorg women do not wear head kerchiefs except on festive occasions. They prefer to go with their long soft black hair plaited and tied beautifully at the back of their head. Silver ornaments or beads strung together as necklaces are worn by the poorer classes of women. All classes of women now prefer light and modern patterns of ornaments. In every village and town, gold-smiths,mostly from South Kanara, ply their trade.

Food.

The staple food in Coorg is rice and is eaten by the people of all the communities. Wheat is used sometimes on festive or ceremonial occasions.

Brahmins in villages take their food in plantain leaves. Other classes of people eat from plates of enamel, brass, stainless steel or silver according to their status and wealth. In the towns, the people generally eat from plates. The Coorgs and others, excepting Brahmins, place their plates on tables or on low three-legged stools.

Coming to the items of food, the normal Brahmin meal consists of rice, ghee, dal curry with vegetables or butter milk

curry with vegetables, pickles and curds or buttermilk. The Havika and Shivalli Brahmins use coconut oil, coconuts and buttermilk daily in their cooking. These two sets of Brahmins prepare several kinds of curries which are characteristic of South Kanara. In the vegetarian hotels, rice, ghee, dal, vegetables, pickles and curd or buttermilk are supplemented by happalas. On festive occasions, the meal is embellished by sweets and savoury dishes. The Coorgs, in addition to the above items of food, eat meat, fowl, and also fish. Non-vegetarian food is used by all the communities of Coorg, except the Brahmins, Lingayats, goldsmiths, some sects of Vokkaligas, Amma Coorgs and Vaishyas. Pork is not eaten by some Hindu communities. As elsewhere, beef is not eaten by the Hindus and pork by the Muhammadans. Wild hogs, antelopes and deer are shot and eaten by some of the non-vegetarian communities of Coorg.

The people of the district take tiffin with coffee in the morning, a meal with rice at noon, light tiffin in the afternoon and a meal again at night. Orthodox Brahmin widows do not take a meal in the night, but have light uncooked food like parched rice and plantains or other fruits.

The poorer classes of people take *kanji* or rice gruel in the morning instead of coffee.

Hospitality of the people.

The people of the district are known for their hospitality to guests and strangers. This may be due to their economic self-sufficiency and the surplus production of foodgrains. Europeans who had occasion to visit the houses of the Coorgs in the last century have remarked that every householder received them warmly and would not be satisfied unless the visitor partook of the food or the drink offered to him. Even to this day, whether in the urban or rural areas, no visitor to any house in Coorg goes back without partaking of the hospitality of the householder. In this connection, it is interesting to note that Lingarajendra Wodeyar, who ruled Coorg from 1811 to 1820, passed an order of hospitality when he issued a series of 53 orders to his subordinate officials dealing with a variety of administrative matters. The order of hospitality confirmed the practice previously obtaining in Coorg. This order runs thus: "When any traveller or stranger comes to a man's house either by day or night, or because he is hungry, let him be given of the food partaken of in that house, if he scruple not to eat it. Otherwise let him receive all the necessary materials for making a ready meal. If further, any such wayfarer be sick, let him be fed once or twice and tended, for this is ordinary civility. It is left to the pleasure of the host to give or to refuse more than this. If food and drink have been twice given, his conduct will not be subject to question".

In Coorg, the houses are situated in the villages far away from one another and guests and even strangers do not carry even a bed-roll. Almost every householder in Coorg has extra beds, blankets, bed sheets and such other necessaries to offer to his guests.

FESTIVALS

The Coorgs and other communities who have adopted Coorg customs and mode of life have three major festivals; the Bhagavathi festival is observed in the villages where temples of Bhagavathi are situated. Every village has a temple in which the festival of the village deity is held once a year. In some villages, the deity installed in the temple is Bhagavathi and in some Mahadeva or his son Subramanya.

Keil Muhurta.

Of the three festivals of the Coorgs, first comes the Keil Muhurta or the auspicious day for the worship and the use of arms. This is celebrated either in the last week of August or in the first week of September, after the hard labours of ploughing, sowing and transplanting of rice are over. On the morning of the joyous day, the whole armoury of the house consisting of guns, swords, knives, and bow and arrow and spear, if remaining from early days, is placed in a big room or in the verandah. When the auspicious moment arrives, incense is burnt before the weapons, sandal paste is applied to them in profusion and an offering of delicacies prepared for the festival is made. After the festive meal, the men proceed with their arms to the village green (uru mandu) to spend the afternoon in shooting matches and other athletic sports. In former days, when game was abundant in Coorg, people used to go hunting in the jungles from the next day, for two or three days. Such hunting after Keil Muhurta has become rare now.

Cauvery Festival.

The Cauvery festival is held on the Tula Sankramana day, the time of the sun entering into the sign of Libra, which happens generally in the month of October. On this day, the people of Coorg and particularly the Coorgs do puja and offer special prayers to Mother Cauvery (Lopamudre) who, according to the legend, took the form of a river for blessing the people with her bounty. The river is looked upon as the patron goddess of the Coorgs. It is generally believed by the devout that by taking a bath in the river their sins will be washed off. On the Cauvery Sankramana day, thousands of people gather at Bhagamandala, a place about three miles from Talakaveri, where the Cauvery and another stream Kannike join together and after bathing at the confluence, go to Talakaveri, take their bath again in the holy tank at the source of the river and offer special prayers. At Bhagamandala, persons who have lost their parents offer 'pinda' or balls of rice to their departed ancestors.

People who cannot go to Talakaveri offer prayers to Mother Cauvery in their homes.

Huttari Festival

The Huttari festival is held in honour of the annual rice harvest. It is the great national festival of the Coorgs and others of their mode of life. This festival takes place on the full moon day in the month of 'Vrishchika' and it falls between the 20th of November and 20th of December. On that day, at the auspicious moment in the night, the head of the family dressed in the Coorg costume goes to the fields with his family members, relatives and servants, with music and drums and shouting prayers for abundance, cuts a few paddy stalks and brings the sheaf to the threshing yard and then to the house shouting "Poli, poli Deva" (Increase, increase O ! God). The ears of the crop decorate various places of importance inside and outside the house such as cradle, safe and granary. Afterwards all the members partake of a sumptuous dinner. During three or four days following this, there is dancing in the village common with short sticks being beaten in rhythm and this dance is known as 'Kolata'.

As already stated above, in addition to these festivals, festivals are also celebrated in the temple of the village deity Bhagavathi, Mahadeva or Subramanya, in almost every village at different times of the year and in different forms. In some of the temples, there are special dances known as 'Bolakatu', 'Kombatu', 'Peeliatu', 'Chopatu', etc.

The Brahmins in Coorg, as in other districts, observe the following days as festivals: *Yugadi*, the first day of Chaitra. On this day, neem leaves with jaggery are eaten and the new year's panchangam (Almanac) is read. *Ramanavami*, the ninth day of Chaitra, is celebrated as the birth-day of Rama. *Sowra Yugadi* or Tamil New Year's Day is celebrated by some sects of Brahmins and by the Hindus who have come and settled in Coorg from South Kanara and Tamil Nad. *Krishna Ashtami* is celebrated by the Brahmins in August on the eighth day of Sravana. This day is observed as a day of fast and in the evening special pujas are performed and a festive dinner is taken. *Ganesh Chaturthi* falling on the fourth day of the bright half of Bhadrapada is an important festival in Coorg observed by all communities among the Hindus. Many Coorgs get Ganesha *homa* performed in their houses by Brahmins on this day. *Mahalaya Amavasya* is a day dedicated to offering 'tharpana' to the departed ancestors. *Navarathri* which begins from the first day of Asvija is known for the worship of Shakthi in her various forms such as Durga and Chamundi. The tenth day known as *Vijayadasami* marks the end of the festival. On the night of the tenth day, a procession of idols in decorated mantapas is taken through the important towns of Mercara and Virajpet. After the creation of the new Mysore State, this festival has assumed national importance. *Deepavali*, the festival

of lights, is observed on the 13th day of the dark half of Asvija. *Tulasi Puja* is performed by Brahmins on the 12th Lunar day of Kartika. *Makara Sankramana,* on the fourth Lunar day of Pushya, is observed by Brahmins. *Mahasivarathri* on the new moon day of Magha is an important festival to the Smartha Brahmins and other devotees of Shiva. On this day they observe a fast and worship Shiva at home or in a temple. The whole night is spent in performing puja or in singing devotional songs of Shiva. The next morning, the god is again worshipped and a feast is held. *Holi* or *Kamana-habba* is observed in Coorg only by the Rajputs and Telugu Shettis who have settled here.

The Lingayats observe Basava Jayanthi, Nagara Panchami, Gowri and Ganesha festivals, Deepavali and Mahasivarathri.

In addition, people undertake pilgrimages to the temples of Manjunatha of Dharmasthala, Subramanya, Venkateswara of Tirupathi, Pemmiah of Tirunelli in Wynad and Baiturappa of Baitur in North Malabar. Some people visit holy places like Gokarna, Rameswara, Palani, Kasi, Prayag and Gaya.

Important places of pilgrimage in Coorg are Talakaveri and Bhagamandala during the month of Tula (October-November) and Irpu in Srimangalanad in South Coorg on the Mahasivarathri day. People go in large numbers to the annual festival at Padi Iggu-thappa Temple in the month of March. Igguthappa is identified with god Subramanya. Coorgs of Srimangalanad in the extreme south of Coorg and the Yeravas, Kurubas and Harijans of those parts go to the jatra or festival of Kuttadamma or Karingali at Kutta on the border of Wynad.

COMMUNAL LIFE

The communal life of a people is expressed in their group games, general means of recreation and their festivals.

The children as elsewhere are fond of playing different types of games with a soft ball or with marbles. Hockey is now very popular in Coorg and has become almost a national game. It is played both in the villages and in the towns. Cricket is another major game played by the students in the High Schools and Colleges. Volley ball, badminton and basket ball are also played by students and other young men. Girls play badminton and ring tennis. Kabaddi has been recently introduced in schools.

The people of Coorg had come under European influence much earlier than those of the other districts in the State. More than a hundred Britishers and other Europeans had opened coffee plantations in Coorg in the second half of the 19th century. Therefore, the people here took to English education earlier and also began

to play western games. Young men and women play carrom and cards as indoor games.

As the houses of people in the villages are situated by the side of their paddy fields, away from one another, it is not possible for many of them to gather together in the evenings. So, they spend their evenings in their own houses, reading religious or secular literature or singing songs.

Office-goers, retired officials and planters who have settled in towns sometimes spend their time in the clubs which have been formed in almost all the towns. There they play cards or billiards. In some clubs, members play tennis in the evenings.

In all the big towns, there are cinema theatres which attract the people in large numbers.

During the festivals of the village deities, the Coorgs have special dances in the temples. The performers who are in their national costume form a ring, in the centre of which stand the musicians. A song on god Mahadeva aided by the music of some small drums, regulates the movement, the whole party joining at intervals in a rude chorus. Each performer carries a chowree or bunch of hair or some substitute for it, which he moves in unison with his body. This is changed in the second part of the dance, for two small canes, which each strikes against those of his neighbour, the movements getting gradually brisker and more animated.

During marriages and on other joyous occasions, boys and young men of most of the communities dance, keeping step to the sound of the drum and making appropriate gestures with their hands.

In the towns, there are dramatic and other associations which put up dramas or other shows.

In addition to the above recreations, people go to some important festivals or jatras in the district. The following are the important jatras in the district :—

(1) Nandishwara jatra held for two days in the last week of January or the first week of February at Kodlipet.

(2) Gudugalale jatra held for two days in February or early March at Sanivarasanthe.

(3) Jatra at Irpu in Srimangalanad during Mahasivarathri.

(4) Festival in Igguthappa temple at Yavakapadi Village near Kakkabbe in Mercara taluk in the month of March.

(5) Festival in Mahalingeswara temple at Palur in Mercara taluk.

(6) Ganesh procession at Virajpet on Anantha Chathurdasi day.

(7) Dasara procession at Mercara on Vijayadasami day.

(8) Cattle fair at Kushalnagar in the month of October.

(9) Festival in Kakotparambu Kalabhairava temple in Virajpet taluk in November or December.

(10) Festival in Bhadrakali temple at Kukloor near Virajpet in the month of March.

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

Land utilisation.

THE total geographical area of the district according to a note prepared by the District Agricultural Officer, Coorg, is reckoned at 10,11,685 acres. Out of this area, the cultivated portion, *i.e.*, net area sown during 1962-63 was 2,37,213 acres. The extent of fallow land in 1962-63 was 14,853 acres. In the same year, the extent of other uncultivable land was 1,25,358 acres. The total land not available for cultivation was 76,713 acres. The total area under forests was estimated at 3,30,240 acres.

According to the report of the Mysore Tenancy Agricultural Land Laws Committee, 1958, Coorg district had 51,523 holdings, of which 42,112 were under five acres, 6,689 between five and ten acres, 1,040 between ten and fifteen acres and 876 between fifteen and thirty acres The number of holdings above thirty acres was 806.

In Coorg, there is a general preponderance of small holdings under five acres and in some areas in Mercara and Somwarpet taluks, the smallest holding is under one acre. The holdings in the Virajpet taluk are larger but there is considerable fragmentation. The number of land-holdings in the district upto 100 acres is 51,286 and that between 100 to 200 is 127 and that above 200 acres is 110. In the final analysis, it can be said that the average size of the holding is 6.1 acres.

The following table indicates the extent of land utilisation in the district.

Total area of the district in square miles	..	1,590
Number of taluks	..	3 (Mercara, Somwarpet and Ponnampet) *.
Total population	..	322,829

* For purposes of agriculture, Virajpet taluk is identified as Ponnampet taluk as the development block is situated there.

Percentage of agricultural population .. 57.1
Percentage of non-agricultural population .. 42.9

Number of persons directly engaged in agriculture :—

		Men	*Women*	*Total*
As cultivator	..	28,728	19,705	48,433
As agricultural labourer	..	11,727	7,388	19,115
Total	..	40,455	27,093	67,548

Number of persons directly engaged in plantations, orchards, forestry, livestock, etc. 45,027

Total geographical area .. 10,11,685 acres

Net area sown		*Acres*	
(a) Irrigated	..	15,374	2,37,213 acres.
(b) Un-irrigated	..	2,21,839	

Fallow land	..	14,853 acres
Other uncultivable land	..	1,25,358 acres
Forests	..	3,30,240 acres
Land not available for cultivation	..	76,713 acres

Reclamation of waste lands.

According to the statistics furnished by the District Agricultural Officer, Coorg, both fallow and other uncultivable land accounted for 14,853 and 1,25,358 acres, respectively, during 1962-63. The reclamation of this area by manual labour was first tried by the Coorg Government in 1949. Until 1952, this scheme was clubbed with the construction and renovation of tanks, irrigation reservoirs and canals. The purpose of this scheme is to bring fallow lands for cultivation for which a subsidy of not more than Rs. 50 per acre is being paid. Altogether an area of 1,000 acres per year is being reclaimed under the scheme. There is considerable scope for increasing food production by farming these areas of barren hill slopes. At present, there is no area under contour bunding in the district. One of the main causes of low agricultural yield is soil erosion and it has become necessary to conserve the soil by reclamation of alkaline and acid soils. The State Agricultural Department has a programme for intensive reclamation. The financial allocation for the department under this programme was Rs. 1.95 lakhs during the Third Plan period.

For the year 1962-63, there was a target of 1,000 acres to be brought under cultivation by reclaiming fallow lands by manual labour. This target has been fulfilled up to 819.37 acres.

The physical achievement and expenditure from 1952-53 is as follows :—

Year		*Physical achievement*	*Expenditure*
		Acres	Rs.
1952-53	..	782-00	68,408
1953-54	..	658-00	26,465
1954-55	..	1,164-00	27,552
1955-56	..	528-00	27,502
1956-57	..	745-39	22,021
1957-58	..	497-41	26,920
1958 59	..	629-57	31,777
1959-60	..	961-21	45,709
1960-61	..	1,802 80	60,075
1961-62	..	949-62	Paid during 1962-63.
1962-63	..	819-37	78,221

Climate and rainfall.

The climate of Coorg is characterised by high humidity and a mild temperature. The temperature generally varies from 50°F to 55°F in December to about 90°F to 95°F in the summer months of April and May. The relative humidity ranges from nearly 100 per cent in the monsoon months of June, July and August to about 60 per cent in dry months. The district gets the benefit of both the south-west and north-east monsoons. The north-east monsoon which generally breaks out in the month of October sometimes extends over to December. It usually comes in quick downpours and is beneficial to paddy and other crops. The south-west monsoon which forms the chief source of rain, commences from about the first week of June and continues till the end of September. The annual rainfall varies from 40 inches (1000 mm.) along the eastern border to about 250 inches (6250 mm.) along the western border, the average being about 100 inches (2500 mm.) Scattered showers are also received during March-April and these are highly beneficial for the plantation crops. In fact, the effective blossoming of the plantation crops depends entirely on the adequacy of these showers. The normal annual rainfall in the different taluks is as follows :—

Mercara	..	3236.7 mm.
Virajpet	..	2687.8 mm.
Somwarpet	..	2183.1 mm.

Soils.

In respect of classification of soils in the district, no detailed soil survey has been conducted so far. However, the entire district can be broadly divided into three major soil zones. The soil in the eastern zone is mostly dark clayey becoming water-logged during monsoons and cracking up in summer. The soil in the central zone is light brown in colour and loamy to clay-loamy in texture.

In the western zone, the soil is highly leached and tends to be lateritic, deficient in lime with iron and manganese concentrations. As a result of the heavy leaching, the soil is shallow. Poorly drained soil in big patches exists in the southern-most parts of the district. A typical feature of all the zones is the heterogeneous profile which can be classed as lateritic debris in various stages of weathering and laterization. In the valley portions, red loam soils are to be found. These soils are suitable for raising coffee and other plantation crops such as areca and cardamom. The laterite soils are acidic in nature and deficient in lime and other nutrients. Paddy is the main crop grown in these soils but plantation crops like coffee and cardamom are also grown. The dark brown clayey soils are found in the eastern parts of Coorg which are rich in forests.

Forestry.

Out of a total area of 10,11,685 acres in the district, forests alone occupied 3,30,240 acres or roughly 32.64 per cent of the total area during 1962-63. According to the national forest policy drawn up by the Central Government for hilly areas like Coorg, the minimum forest area for climatic and protective reasons should be 60 per cent; the forest area in Coorg, therefore falls short of this limit. This shortage in forest area is, however, made up by the existence of *Paisaris*[1], *Devarakadus*[2] and *Urudves*[3] which are uncultivated Government lands, parts of which are thickly wooded. The forests of Coorg form the most valuable asset of the district, the income from which is several times the land revenue; though the land in possession of the Forest Department forms roughly about one-third of the total area of the district, most of this area is being sparingly worked in order to preserve moisture and maintain proper climatic conditions. The total reserved forests comprise an area of about 520 square miles, which contain some of the richest and most valuable forests in India. The area consists of three regions, *viz.*, protective and climatic forests in areas of torrential rainfall in the Western Ghats of about 314 square miles, timber forests of great potential economic value capable of growing hard woods such as teak which are about 165 square miles and the remaining containing valuable sandalwood-bearing areas. So far as climatic and protective forests are concerned, which constitute about 60 per cent of the forests, no clear fellings whatsoever are

1. *Paisaris* are the village forests managed by the Revenue Department.

2. *Devarakadus* are the forests under the dual management of the Forest and Revenue Departments. These are forests attached to temples. The right to take firewood, timber and other forest produce for temple management has been allowed.

3. *Urudves* are Government lands under the management of the Revenue Department.

carried out but only very few over-matured trees are extracted by selection method in a limited area, *viz.*, one-sixth of a per cent, *i.e.*, 1/600th of the area. The forests in these areas are kept absolutely intact as the primary object of the management of these forests is to protect and safeguard the ghat regions. In the second zone comprising 165 square miles, the 1940 working plan has stock-mapped 115 square miles as fit for teak. This area is particularly suited for teak as can be seen from the quality of teak trees found growing in the region. These forests are found mostly in the Nagarhole, Murkal and Tithimathi ranges. Prior to the year 1910, these forests were worked under what is called the permit system. In those days, any person who obtained a permit could fell the trees he wanted and remove them. Since the nearest markets were Mysore and Bangalore which needed teak, the permit-holders naturally felled most of the teak trees and transported them for sale with the result that the area which was eminently suited for teak gradually got depleted of the valuable teak trees, the inferior trees only being left in that area. The area which is so eminently suited for teak contains at present, 90 per cent of inferior timber such as *mathi, nandi, ambatte* and the like. An area of teak, well-planted, on its maturity is worth about Rs. 25,000 per acre. The difference between 100 square miles of well-grown teak plantations and 100 square miles of degraded type of forests may easily be about one hundred crores of rupees. Hence, any well-planned scheme of conversion of the present degraded forests in this potentially valuable region into large-scale teak plantations will ultimately increase the capital value of the Coorg forests by about one hundred crores of rupees even at a conservative estimate.

The working plan is the basis of forest management. It is generally prepared for a period of ten or fifteen years and it lays down in detail the various operations and system of management to be followed in the forests of a particular region. It is sanctioned by the Government before it is brought into force. There are three working plans in Coorg, *viz.*, one for the ghat forests, the second for the deciduous forests or teak forests and the third for the sandal forests. The exploitation of the timber in the ghat forests or ever-green forests is done through the agency of contractors. All timber-producing areas in these forests are marked out in the working plan maps into separate felling series and each felling series is worked on a cycle of 45 years, that is, each felling series is divided into 45 coupes, and one coupe is worked every year. The annual estimated yield of timber from the ghat forests is about six lakhs cubic feet and the estimated revenue is about five lakhs of rupees a year. Exploitable trees in annual coupes are marked in advance and sold in public auction. The felling and removal of marked trees is done by the contractors under the supervision of the Forest Department. Utilisation of timber from the deciduous forests or teak forests is at present done departmentally. In these forests, the system of management is

to clear-fell the natural forests, extracting all utilisable timber and plant the area with teak. According to the working plan prepared for these forests, the total area suitable for raising teak plantations is about 70,000 acres. Teak plantations are raised on a rotation of 100 years and annually about 700 acres of natural forests are clear-felled and planted with teak. Under this system, it is envisaged that at the end of the 100-year period, there will be a regular series of plantations, ranging in age from one year to 100 years over a total area of 70,000 acres. The timber from the deciduous forests is extracted departmentally and transported for sale to the Coorg Timber Depot at Hunsur in Mysore district. The average annual production of timber from the deciduous forests is about six lakhs cubic feet and the average annual revenue realised by the sale of this timber is about three lakhs of rupees. Not only is the timber from the Coorg Timber Depot at Hunsur sold in auctions to the public, but a considerable proportion of this timber is also supplied to the Indian Railways, the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., at Bangalore, the Hindustan Shipyard at Vishakapatnam and other national concerns. The extraction of sandal is also done departmentally, the extraction being confined only to the dead sandal trees. The average annual yield of sandalwood is about 100 tons and the revenue realised is about three lakhs of rupees. All extracted sandalwood is transported to the Sandal Koti at Kushalnagar and sold there in annual auctions.

In order to ensure sustained productivity of forests, it is necessary that regeneration of forests should go side by side with the exploitation of forests. About 700 acres are therefore planted up annually with teak, the total extent of teak plantations in the reserved forests so far raised being about 18,000 acres. In the ghat forests, annually about 150 acres are being planted up with matchwood species. In addition, about 100 acres are being planted up annually with cashew.

The main source of revenue is by the sale of timber and sandal wood. The forests are divided into two categories, *viz.*, evergreen and deciduous. The evergreen forests are in the ghat region. The eastern parts of the district contain deciduous forests. An area of about 15,000 acres is under teak, about 700 acres under matchwood and 600 acres under cashew plantations. There is also an area of about 1,050 acres under sandalwood. A total financial allocation of Rs. 23.00 lakhs was proposed in the III Plan for various schemes. It is proposed to rehabilitate an area of about 1,100 acres of degraded forests with suitable timber species of economic value at an estimated cost of about Rs. 1.30 lakhs. Out of this, the rehabilitation of about 850 acres in the South Coorg Division will be confined to the Hunsur range. It is also proposed to regenerate about 1,000 acres with teak plantations at a total cost of Rs 1.50 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 1.05 lakhs is also provided for raising Farm Forestry and it is proposed to raise about 4,200 acres of Farm

Forestry to create fuel reserves and provide fodder for the cattle. A sum of Rs. 2.90 lakhs is proposed for the installation of a wood preservation plant during the III Plan period. An area of about 1,000 acres with a financial allocation of about Rs. 1.45 lakhs is proposed to be brought under matchwood plantation.

Irrigation.

The main drainage pattern of Coorg is in an easterly direction towards the Bay of Bengal, while a few mountain torrents flow west from the Western Ghats towards the Arabian Sea. The rivers are not noted either for their width or for depth, but their water supply is abundant. As the sources of the rivers are high up in the mountains and as their courses lie over steep declivities, they flow with great rapidity over rocky beds. Owing to the height of their banks and the unevenness of the country, few of them can be used for irrigation purposes. In 1961-62, the area under irrigation due to facilities provided by the Government was about 9,500 acres. The area under irrigation by Government canals, private canals, tanks and other sources was about 15,000 acres. The talukwise details of the sources of irrigation and the area under irrigation during 1961-62 are given below, in acres.

Taluk		*Government canals*	*Private canals*	*Tanks*	*Others*	*Total*
Mercara	..	864	208	133	..	1,195
Virajpet	..	4,548	322	2,229	158	7,257
Somwarpet	..	4,223	50	2,049	..	6,922
Total	..	9,575	580	5,061	158	15,374

The potentialities of irrigation in the district are being exploited according to plan. The total irrigated area in the district has since risen to about 21,000 acres. The increase is mainly due to the betterment of minor irrigation schemes sponsored under the plan schemes.

Except the Halagate tank (34.28 acres) near Torenur and the picturesquely situated Honnammanakere (16.20 acres) near Somwarpet, there is not a tank worthy of the name in the whole of Coorg District. There were at one time, 2,383 minor tanks or ponds covering a total area of 1,863 acres, most of which were useful more as drinking water ponds than for irrigation. Old revenue accounts show that these ponds have been in existence for upwards of 100 years and as a result of the Irrigation Commission's report of 1901-1903, the more important ones have been repaired by Government. The number of these ponds got reduced as years went by.

Medium Irrigation Projects.

The Lakshmanathirtha Project has been undertaken as a medium irrigation project. The total catchment area of this project is 45 square miles comprising steep sloping hill ranges with a rainfall of 150 to 170 inches. This project was thought of by the old Coorg Government as early as 1893 and was at various stages of correspondence till 1942 when the then Government got up an estimate and forwarded it to the Central Government for approval.* This was further investigated on the suggestion of the Central Government and a storage dam project was envisaged in 1945. The proposed project underwent many changes before it was administratively sanctioned by the Mysore Government in February, 1959, at a cost of Rs. 30.42 lakhs to irrigate about 3,167 acres. It was proposed originally to construct two reservoirs and two anicuts across the Lakshmanathirtha and Ramathirtha rivers. The work of the anicut across the Lakshmanathirtha river is almost complete. Excavation of the left bank channel has been completed to a length of 11 miles. During the III Plan period, a sum of Rs. 11.74 lakhs has been provided for the continuance of the scheme.

It is also proposed to have a reservoir across the Harangi river near Hudugur to irrigate about 75,000 acres in Coorg District as also in Mysore and Hassan Districts. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1,100 lakhs.* A sum of Rs. 61.00 lakhs has been provided in the III Plan to construct a reservoir across the Cauvery river near Kambadakada to irrigate about 22,500 acres.

Minor Irrigation.

In this district, the practice of irigation by means of wells is not in vogue. The term 'tank' is used in Coorg even for very small pools, where water is stored for drinking and also for irrigation purposes. At present, there are 481 tanks of various sizes with an irrigation command of 7,000 acres. Minor irrigation works in a district like Coorg are very important as a major portion of the lands is rainfed and suffers from drought if the rains fail in October and November. Further, the rain water is drained through rivers and streams and in order to impound the same, minor irrigation works have become necessary. A financial allocation of Rs. 9.00 lakhs was made in the III Plan for construction of new tanks, restoration of old tanks and construction of new anicuts, pick-ups and opening of feeder channels.

The Balaji anicut near Ponnampet has an ayacut of 500 acres. The Swothihalla anicut near Kushalnagar and the Nayadahalla, Shantaverry, Chicklehole, Madalapur, Honnikoppa

* The foundation stone of the Harangi project was laid by the Chief Minister of Mysore at Hudugur in May 1965.

and Devanur anicuts have a command of 3,200 acres in all. As there is only field to field irrigation prevailing in the area, no regulation to control water distribution is envisaged.

Agricultural seasons.

The agricultural season in the district commences with the advent of the south-west monsoon when preparatory cultivation begins in the wet lands. The only season that is very important for farming practices is the *kariff* season, the duration of which is from May to December. Only in Somwarpet and Mercara taluks, a small area is sown with *rabi* crops (January to April). Prior to the unleashing of the abundant south-west monsoon rains in the early part of June, Coorg also gets the late summer showers. With this the cultivators get themselves busy in preparing their fields for sowing. All the main sowings are completed during May and June. Paddy which is the principal crop in the district, is transplanted by the end of August or by the first week of September. In the low rainfall areas, especially in the eastern regions of the district, all the main dry crops are sown during May and June. Weeding and other farming practices are continued thereafter. The paddy crop comes for harvesting by the end of December and the threshing work continues till the end of February and this almost marks the end of the agricultural season in Coorg. During the same period, the harvesting of the principal crops like cardamom, pepper, coffee and orange will be mostly over. The harvesting of Robusta Coffee which starts from about the middle of January continues till the end of March. It will be interesting to describe here the calendar of agricultural operations in the district.

January.—Harvesting, threshing and marketing of paddy are attended to Picking and curing of the coffee crop commences. Picking of oranges and arecanut is done.

February.—Threshing of paddy is continued. Picking of Robusta Coffee and oranges is done. In this month, the farmers busy themselves with curing of coffee and the production of vegetables. Compost preparation is also done.

March.—Picking and curing of Robusta Coffee and picking of orange crop are continued. Vegetable growing and compost preparation form an important factor in the agricultural operations of the month. Usually there will be summer showers in this month.

April.—In this month also summer showers are received for the blossoming of the plantation crops. The cultivators start the first round of ploughing of their fields.

May.—Ploughing of the fields is continued in this month. In the Sanivarsanthe hobli, sowing of dry paddy commences. Ragi

is also sown in Kushalnagar hobli. Crops are manured. Spraying of insecticides and fungicides is done in respect of oranges, coffee and arecanuts.

June.—The south-west monsoon commences in this month Orange and coffee plants are sprayed with insecticides. Sowing of paddy in the nurseries is taken up and a third round of ploughing is done in the fields. The bunds of all paddy fields are reinforced and green leaf is applied all over the fields. Compost or cattle manure is also applied. Transplanting in respect of ragi is done in this month. Sowing of all the main dry crops is completed. Planting of coffee, cardamom, orange and arecanut is also done. In the plantations, the cultivators begin shade-planting and shade-lopping.

July. -The South west monsoon is severe in this month Transplanting of late ragi and inter-cultivation are completed. The ploughing of the fields and transplantation of paddy are continued.

August --In this month ploughing and transplanting are continued. Weeding is done in the early transplanted areas. Inter-cultivation of ragi, planting of cardamom and coffee, sowing of horse-gram are generally done. The south-west monsoon will be practically over in this month.

September.—Horse gram is sown in this month. The paddy fields are weeded Top dressing with fertilisers is done generally. Plantation crops are sprayed to protect them from pests and diseases Trenches are opened in coffee estates Cardamom is picked. Manuring is done to all the plantation crops.

October.—In the coffee estates, fly picking of Arabica coffee is done. Ragi is harvested in this month. The paddy crop in the district comes to the stage of earheads. Cardamom picking and curing is continued.

November.--Picking of coffee crop is done in this month. Paddy and ragi are both harvested in all the areas Oranges are picked in all orchards.

December.—All the crops are harvested in this month. Threshing of paddy and ragi commencees. Horsegram is also harvested.

Principal Crops

The principal crops in the district are paddy, ragi, coffee, cardamom, orange, pepper and arecanut. The following table indicates the extent of acreage under each crop in 1962-63.

Crop			*Acres*
Paddy	..	..	1,12,541
Ragi	..	..	5,394
Coffee	..	..	86,775
Orange	..	..	28,153
Cardamom	..	..	15,245
Arecanut	..	..	778
Pepper	..	..	894
Coconut	..	..	212
Tea	..	..	1,222

Paddy is grown extensively in all regions of the district. Soils in this region are mostly red, sandy and lateritic. These soils are deficient in nitrogen, phosphoric acid, humus and lime. The mountain and hill soils are deficient in phosphoric acid, potash and lime. In Coorg, most of the rice soils are sandy loam and a few patches here and there are clayey loam.

Paddy is the staple product of Coorg; the numerous valleys throughout the district have, from ancient times, yielded an unfailing supply every year for local consumption and also for export to the Kerala coast. The paddy valleys are most extensive in South Coorg—in the neighbourhood of Virajpet, where some fields are of considerable breadth and several miles in length, but owing to the surrounding low deforested hills, which yield little fertilising action, the soil is of a quality inferior to those fields of the narrower valleys near the ghats, where the ground is terraced at considerable pains. The lower and broader fields of a valley, having a rivulet running through them are called *bailu gadde* and those terraced up along the sides and chiefly depending on the rainfall are named *maki gadde*. The paddy cultivated throughout Coorg and in general use is the large grained *Dodda batta*. A finer and more palatable kind is the small rice, *Sanna batta*. Except in a few valleys in North Coorg, there is annually but one rice crop, but its return is so rich that the cultivators may well be satisfied and allow their cattle to rest and their fields to lie fallow or to bask themselves in the sunshine, as the local inhabitants say, for the remainder of the year. Nearly half the cropped area of 2,43,646 acres in the district is under paddy. More than 40,000 holdings are mainly dependent on the cultivation of paddy. It may therefore be seen that the paddy cultivation in Coorg is of supreme importance in developing the economic status of over 60 per cent. of the cultivators, whose holdings are of an average type ranging from 10 acres and below. While the rainfall and other environmental factors are conducive to a high level of production of crops, there are natural hazards encountered by the agriculturists in the district. Heavy incessant rains result in the washing away of the fertility of soils and as over one-third of the area of the district is generally covered by ever-green forests,

favourable environments exist for the extensive prevalence of various plant diseases and pests which take a very heavy toll of almost all agricultural crops and plantations.

The local practice of cultivation consists of preparatory tillage operations like ploughing which is generally started from April onwards and goes on till about the end of June. Generally, six to seven rounds of ploughings are given to bring proper puddling stage in all areas. Bulk farm-yard manure at an average of about five cart loads per acre is applied in the later part of May and in June, generally at the third round of ploughing. The seed rate is ranging from 20 lbs. to 60 lbs. per acre. Transplanting of paddy is done according to local practices. Generally, this is done in lines and closely follows the accepted scientific standard of line planting. After-care of the crops depends upon the size of the holding and generally cultivators having small holdings carry out two or three weedings and stirring up of the soil. Regulation of water to the fields is also carried out with a certain amount of precision. No other operations are carried out before harvesting. The cultivation of paddy in Coorg is normally of a very high order and observers from outside have opined that the cultivation system is very efficient. In spite of adversities and hazards, it is noteworthy that due to hard labour, the agriculturist produces remarkable yields of paddy. Before the ushering in of the Grow More Food scheme in Coorg, the production levels were of the order of about 1,400 lbs. per acre. The assessment of production is generally done in a very accurate manner and, according to the revenue classification of soil fertility, maximum record yield of 4,000 lbs. per acre is not uncommon on about 12 per cent of the total area under paddy. As a result of sustained work both under the Grow More Food scheme and the plant protection scheme, the average level of production has gradually improved. This increased production is mainly due to the changed outlook of the cultivators in respect of the new methods of cultivation and application of more manures, manure mixtures and modern fertilisers. The cultivation of paddy is closely associated with the cultural structure of the society in the villages. Close harmony exists throughout the cultivation period and, in fact, transplanting and harvesting of paddy are done in a collective manner in almost all village centres. From 6 A.M. to 10 A.M. the ploughing of the fields is done till all the fields are turned over two to three times. Then the borders are trimmed, the channels cleaned and the little banks between the fields repaired to regulate the water. By the end of May, one part of the fields which commands a permanent water supply and which has been well manured is prepared for the nursery, by repeated ploughing and harrowing while the whole field is submerged. The seed paddy is heaped up on the north side of the house, watered for three days, then covered up with plantain leaves till it begins to sprout. The nursery ground has meanwhile been again ploughed and harrowed

and the water allowed to run off, so that the grain when sown is just imbedded in the soft mud. After 20 or 30 days, the blades have attained a height of about one foot and the seedlings are ready for transplanting. Regulated by the south-west monsoon rain, the paddy transplanting takes place during July and August. The women, covered with leaf umbrellas called *goragas* that rest on the head and protect the whole of the body, pull out the seedlings from the nursery and tie them in small bundles, which are collected in one spot. Meanwhile, the submerged fields are repeatedly ploughed and levelled when all the men of the house, placed in a line and standing almost knee-deep in the muddy fields begin the transplanting in which women are not expected to join. The bundles are conveniently deposited over the field ; each man takes a handful of seedlings at a time into his left hand and with the right hand presses with great rapidity six or eight seedlings together into the mud, keeping a regular distance of about nine inches. Before the completion of the largest field, an open space of about ten feet width is left throughout the whole length to facilitate the field workers to keep the young seedlings. In November or December, the paddy gets ripe for harvesting. The water is drained off the fields, the paddy plants are cut down with sickles close to the ground and spread out to dry. After five or six days, they are bound into sheaves, carried home and stacked in a heap, the ear-heads turned inside. In January or February, chiefly on moonlight nights, the sheaves are taken to the threshing floor, spread round a stone pillar fixed in the middle and trodden by bullocks or buffaloes.

There is quite a variety of paddy strains that are put to cultivation in the district. Coarse coloured types like *Doddi* and *Kartha* are generally grown in areas where water scarcity is experienced at the flowering phase of the crop, namely, late October and November months. Popular "*Bilia*" types and *BAM 3* cover up over 90 per cent of the total area under paddy cultivation. These local *Bilias* are generally of medium quality grain having mixture of red and white. Fine varieties like local *Sanna*, G.E.B-24, *Jeerige sanna, Gandasale and Nagapura sanna* are also grown. Under the rice breeding programme which was launched in 1919, a few of the promising cultures have been released at village centres for experimental purposes. During the previous years, experiments were carried out at village centres having different treatments consisting of different levels of nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash and lime at random. The results showed that the response to fertiliser application differed significantly from village to village, indicating the variability of soil fertility. Generally, application of lime and nitrogen along with phosphoric acid has given outstanding yields.

The dark brown clayey soil which is found in the eastern part of Coorg is good for paddy cultivation. The varieties which are

largely made use of are the *Kiribilia, Mambilia,* G.E.B.-24, BAM 3 and Andrewsail. Paddy thrives in soils which are well drained but at the same time have enough retentivity to hold the water required for the crop. The soils in the high rainfall areas of Coorg have a high content of organic matter but are very low in phosphorus. Improved selections of local varieties of paddy are quite popular in the district and nearly half of the area under paddy is under improved varieties. There is no rotation of crop followed after paddy. The present average yield of paddy according to the District Agricultural authorities is between 2,000 lbs. to 2,500 lbs. per acre.

Japanese method of paddy cultivation.—This popular method is in vogue in the district since March 1953. The main feature of this method is the reduction in seed rate, raised seed beds and transplanting in lines. During the II Plan period, every year large areas were brought under this method and the average yield increased from 1,800 lbs. to 2,500 lbs. per acre. During 1962-63, a target of 60,000 acres was envisaged out of which 40,973 acres were planted.

Production of paddy over the years.—As paddy is the main crop in the district and is grown under rainfed conditions, it will be interesting to trace the production figures over the years. In 1834, the area under paddy cultivation was 38,031 acres. This figure represented the Raja's sists at that time. From the figures, disclosed in the various administration reports of the Coorg State, it is seen that the acreage under paddy went on increasing. The following figures indicate the upward trend in the area under paddy crop.

Year			*Acres*
1873-74	..	..	60,104
1878-79	..	..	71,772
1883-84	..	..	73,015
1898-99	..	..	74,059
1900-01	..	..	93,804
1911-12	..	..	82,527
1921-22	..	..	84,587
1932-33	..	..	83,775
1952-53	..	..	88,436
1954-55	..	..	93,912
1960-61	..	..	1,10,773
1961-62	..	..	1,11,722
1962-63	..	..	1,12,541

It is seen that only in 1911-12 was there a slight decrease in the acreage. Also in 1932-33, there was a fall. But since then the acreage under paddy has increased steadily.

Coffee is a major plantation crop in the district, occupying a total area of 86,775 acres in 1962-63 which is nearly one-third of the total cultivated area of 2,37,213 acres. The suitability of the Coorg area for growing coffee was long known to the indigenous population but it was only in 1854 that European enterprise entered the field of coffee production in the district. It is fairly well-known that by 1862, Wynad adjoining the Coorg area was the centre of the coffee growing area in South India. Old time settlement records indicate that in 1857, about 579 tons of coffee were produced in the Coorg area. This tonnage was increased to 3,000 tons in 1867 and 4,880 tons in 1876. In 1870, the total area under coffee cultivation was 76,275 acres. The following statistics which are readily available indicate the extent of acreage under coffee growth over the years.

Coffee.

Year			*Acres*
1873	..	..	76,479
1878	..	..	83,048
1883	..	..	77,176
1898	..	..	78,169
1903	..	..	69,530
1911	..	..	43,313
1921	..	..	40,909
1932	..	..	40,345
1954	..	..	51,521
1960-61	..	..	74,882
1961-62	..	..	74,880
1962-63	..	..	86,775

From the above figures, it is seen that, after 1903, there was a perceptible decline in the area under cultivation. This position has been retrieved in recent years. The decline in acreage was due to a particular kind of disease which ruined a number of plantations. The period between 1878 and 1883 is particularly noteworthy because in those years, the coffee crop was in an exceptionally flourishing condition. In 1884, due to abnormal imports of Brazilian coffee, the local trade had a serious setback.

The story goes that the coffee plant was first introduced in South India by a Muslim who came from Arabia nearly 210 years ago. He seems to have brought this plant and popularised it on the slopes of mountains. During the time of the Coorg Rajas, a few coffee plants were seen here and there and also in the close proximity of the Nalknad Palace. The people in Coorg will remember the name of Captain Le Hardy who did so much to extend the acreage of cultivation. It was in 1854 that coffee cultivation attracted the attention of some Europeans who found the hilly area of Coorg a congenial place. Aided by the encouragement given to him both by the authorities and the local population,

Mr. Fowler started the first coffee estate in Coorg in 1854 near Mercara. In the next two years, other European planters decided to open a few more estates. By 1856, nearly 70,000 acres of land were turned into coffee estates. The local people and the Europeans vied with each other in establishing as many coffee estates as possible. The largest and the oldest coffee estate in 1870 was the Carnatic Coffee Co., Ltd., with an extensive area of 3,000 acres. The Abbial, the Athur and the Elk Hill coffee estates were managed by European planters. Near Somwarpet, Shri Channabasappa established the first Indian-owned coffee estate. His estates were Bhootanakadu, Kusbar and Suntikoppa. These estates were later on developed by Srimathi Sakamma who also started the well-known Sakamma Coffee Works in Bangalore. The Manghes Coffee Company is one of the largest estates in Coorg. The Palethodu, the Faith, the Watekadu and Hoovinakadu estates did much to enhance the reputation of the coffee business. In the southern areas, particularly on the Brahmagiri Hills, extensive plantations came up. The Hope, the Horur and the Jamboor estates were also famous in those days.

The problems affecting coffee production became manifold and the owners of plantations determined to have a united front to press their demands. The Consolidated Coffee Estates, Ltd., a joint-stock venture of all the coffee-growers, was started in 1943 with its headquarters at Pollibetta. The company owned the Kushalnagar Coffee Works and the Hunsur Coffee Works and acted as liaison to coffee lands and industries. The company are the agents for fertilisers and generally manage all the estate requirements. The shareholders of the company are the various owners of coffee estates throughout Mysore. The Nullor, Jamboor, Margolly, and Coteybetta estates are directly managed by the Consolidated Coffee Estates. Mr. Ivor Bull, whose name is so popular in the coffee areas of Mysore, was for a long time the Managing Director of the company.

In the selection of fields for coffee cultivation, care is taken to obtain a tract well sheltered by nature from undue exposure either to the south-west or the east wind. The area selected for coffee plantation should be in the zone that is favoured with as large a share as possible of the March and April showers and yet not visited by too large a share of rain in the south-west monsoon. The coffee plant rejoices in a damp, warm temperature, such as is procurable in the west of Mysore State at elevations from 2500 to 3500 feet above sea level, although the coffee tree will grow under certain circumstances at elevations both below and above these. A good rich loamy soil, of any colour, with a good deposit of vegetable matter on the surface and not much sheet rock underlying it, is required. There are varieties of land in Coorg in which coffee has been planted, the ordinary forests, the heavy ghat forests, village jungles or land the original timber of which having been

cut and then followed by a secondary growth of trees of a smaller type. Some of the finest coffee estates have been formed on lands of the first and third varieties mentioned above which have the decided advantage over all other descriptions of possessing a rich deposit of decayed vegetable mould that has not been exposed to atmospheric influences and hence contains an almost inexhaustible store of organic and inorganic constituents available as food for the coffee plant.

The clearing process for a coffee plantation consists of removing with the axe all undergrowth and obstructions and trees which are not required. Large trees that have a thick foliage in the hot weather and little or none in the monsoon are left as shade at regular distances, attention being paid to leave fewer trees on portions with a northern aspect than on those facing the south, all quarters exposed to the wind especially requiring protection. This accomplished, the ground is either cleared by lopping and laying in line to await the process of rotting in the monsoon. Lines of pegs generally at 8×8 feet are then laid down and the land is holed, each hole being generally 1½'×1½'×1½' deep. This is done to remove all obstacles to the roots of the young plants, and to make a nice loose bed for their reception.

For nurseries, convenient situations with facilities for irrigation or with river or tank frontage are selected and entirely cleared of trees, the soil being dug to the depth of two feet or more and every root and stone removed. This is then laid out into beds, generally about four feet wide, separated by paths and the whole field well-drained and put in order with the same care as a flower garden. Manure is applied and the beds are then cut up into furrows six inches apart into which the seeds are placed about one inch apart. The whole bed is then covered up with dry leaves and watered by hand, care being taken to maintain a uniform rate of moisture which must not be excessive. The seed germinates in six weeks and from the bean which is raised on a slender green stem of about eight inches in height, burst forth two small oval leaves. These two-leafed seedlings are pricked out into beds at either 4×4 or 6×6 inches and require from ten to fourteen months, with constant attention and watering, to form into good plants, which should have three or four pairs of small primary branches and be from one foot to one and a half in height. Planting is done in the months of June, July and August. The plants being carefully removed from the beds and the roots trimmed, they are planted either with a *mammati* or planting staff by a regular team of experienced men. Great attention is paid to this operation to see that the holes are properly filled in and that the roots are not bent or injured and lastly that the plants are firmly set in the ground and not hung. Under favourable conditions the plants are ready for topping in the second year. A topping staff, duly marked to the proper height, is placed alongside of the young tree

and the top or head and one primary branch are removed. Trees are topped at heights varying from two feet to four and a half feet, but the medium of three feet is generally preferred. This operation has the effect of directing the sap into the primary branches and making them throw out secondary shoots which come from each eye along the branch. An abundance of vigour has the effect of forcing out a number of shoots under the junction of the upper primaries with the stem and also from the stem at various places. These are termed suckers and are all removed by groups of women and boys. The first crop generally appears in the third year and consists merely of a few berries on the primary branches aggregating about one maund per acre. In the fourth year, a return of about one cwt. per acre may be expected and it is not until the seventh or eighth year that the planter is rewarded by a full crop, which even under the most favourable circumstances rarely exceeds five or six cwts. per acre. The crop begins to ripen in October and November. As soon as the berries are of a fine red colour, they are picked into baskets and brought to the pulper to be either measured or weighed and deposited in a vat made for their reception. They are passed through the pulper with a stream of water either the same day or early next morning. The pulp or outer skin being thus removed, the beans are allowed to ferment for twenty or twenty-four hours, without water to facilitate the removal of saccharine matter which surrounds them. After the mass has been washed and well stamped out, all light beans and skins being carefully separated, the beans are removed to the draining mats where they are constantly turned over and allowed to dry for a day or more or until all water has drained off. They are then spread out thickly on the drying ground in order to dry slowly. This is an operation requiring constant attention for six or eight days. The beans should not be dried too thinly spread or too suddenly exposed to the full rays of the sun as they are apt to become bleached and bent. A drying ground protected by large trees is the best as in that case portions in shade and sun are both available. When the beans are sufficiently dried, they are put into bags and despatched outside. The yield of an estate that has been well maintained in cultivation may be put down at from six to ten cwts. per acre. An accurately calculated estimate shows that in a series of years, the crop is more frequently below six cwts. But the yield varies in different places.

The high reputation of Coorg coffee is attributed partly to the soil and climate and partly to the coffee being slowly ripened under shade. The easiest of the methods that have been adopted for providing shade is to clear and burn the entire forest and then plant shade trees along with the coffee plant. Another plan is to clear and burn the underwood and a certain portion of the forest trees, leaving the remainder for shade. Experience shows that the retention of as much as possible of the original forest is desirable

and that land which has not been burnt will last far longer. Five varieties of trees are specially recommended as the most suitable to grow for obtaining shade in the coffee plantations, *viz.*, Ficus Sp., Albizzia Sp., Artocarpus Sp., Grevillea robusta (Silver oak) and Erythrina lithosperma. The trees should be planted in lines running east and west in order to provide shade from the southernly sun and so close to one another in each row that in five or six years their tops will touch. When they begin to crowd, every other one should be removed, and this process can be repeated if found necessary.

Coorg has about one-third of the total coffee area in India. The increased and steady price of coffee has given a fillip to coffee cultivation and the area under this important plantation crop has increased considerably in recent years.

Orange is now the third important agricultural crop in the district, spread over an area of 28,153 acres during 1962-63. Coffee which is a major plantation crop in the Coorg area was fetching a fair price as a result of which the cultivation of oranges was practically neglected. During the war period, the growers realised a good revenue from the orange crop and this gave an impetus for the expansion of orange gardens, resulting in an increase of acreage from 9,000 acres in 1931-32 to 28,153 acres in 1960-61. The reputed Coorg orange (Mandarine) is a loose-skinned fruit of fairly big size with a pleasant and tasty flavour. The attractive appearance and the deep orange colour are very characteristic of the fruit. Its sugar and acid contents are well-blended. The Coorg orange is reputed in all the South Indian markets for its exquisite flavour and superior quality. The orange is cultivated in all parts of Coorg having varying amounts of rainfall from 30 to 150 inches and an elevation from 2,000 to 4,000 feet. It is also grown in a variety of soils. Oranges are grown either as a separate crop or intermixed with coffee. The ideal soil, best suited for orange cultivation, is light loamy soil with adequate drainage. The spacing of trees varies from 18 to 20 feet. The trees come to bearing in about seven years in the Tithimathi area, 15 years in the Napoklu zone and about 10 years in other parts of Coorg. These variations are due to the difference in soils, climatic factors, humidity and rainfall. The average annual production of oranges is about 2,000 lorry loads. In a year, two crops are grown, *viz.*, summer and monsoon crops. The summer crop is the main crop in respect of quantity, quality and also value. This crop is harvested from the months of December to March. The summer crop constitutes about 90 per cent of the total production of oranges in Coorg. This is followed by the monsoon crop which is of little consequence as it does not ripen properly and is of poor quality. This is harvested from June to August and fetches a poor price. The oranges grown in Coorg are marketed through contractors by a system of

Orange.

lease and then through middle-men. Some growers market their fruits through the Coorg Orange-Growers' Co-operative Society.

Details about orchards :—The selection of fruits is the most important factor to establish a good orange garden. Very little attention is paid in Coorg to collect trees of outstanding merit with regard to yield, quality and freedom from pests and diseases. It is a common practice in Coorg to collect seeds from the fruits that are unfit for consumption, as a result of which the trees raised from these seeds are subjected to various kinds of diseases and pests. The considerable amount of money spent to establish an orchard proves ineffective and useless if false economy is adopted while raising or procuring nursery plants. For the seed material, fruits have to be selected from trees of outstanding merit in yield and quality and free from diseases and pests. The tree must be above 20 years of age. When once the parent tree is selected, it is immaterial whether the fruits are selected either from summer or monsoon crop. The usual belief that seeds collected from monsoon oranges yield only summer oranges or *vice versa* is not an established fact. The flowering and yield can be controlled by cultural practices as is being done in some other parts of India. As the monsoon oranges fetch a very poor price in the market, the growers always prefer monsoon oranges for the extraction of seeds for propagation. The seeds are extracted by squeezing the fruits and they are washed in order to remove the pulp. Then they are dried slightly in the shade and sowed soon after, on raised beds. Seeds are often attacked by ants and this can be controlled by dusting with D.D.T. or gammaxene powder. Orange seeds lose their viability if stored for long, specially if they are allowed to become dry. It is observed that seeds lose their viability up to nearly 60 per cent, if they are stored for a week. So it is desirable to sow the seeds within a day or two after extraction. Seeds begin to germinate after 12 days when the temperature is 80 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit but in Coorg the seeds take nearly 20 days for a complete germination. Orange is poly-embryonic in nature, that is to say, one seed produces four to five seedlings. Out of these, one is of gametic nature (from fertilised egg) and the others are nuclear seedlings which are true to the mother plant. Great care is taken to discard the gametic seedlings by removing the weak and very vigorous seedlings. A hybrid will be either weak or vigorous and this is discarded from the first seed bed and also from the second seed bed. It is found advisable to raise all the uniform seedlings in the nursery which are proved to be nuclear in nature without any variation occurring in the orchard. This aspect of horticultural science is completely neglected in Coorg and so many orchards have deteriorated owing to this cause. The seedlings should be transplanted to the second seed bed when they are two to three inches high. The nursery plants are to be protected from dry weather by watering the plants and by the erection of the shade pandal over the nursery plants. The plants

are ready for planting in the regular orchard after 18 months from the date of sowing the seed.

Planting.—Pits of 2 feet × 2 feet × 2 feet at a distance of 20 feet from each other seem adequate for orange trees, and these are dug and refilled with fresh soil. At the time of planting, only a small amount of soil in the centre of the covered pits needs to be taken out for accommodating the earth and the roots. To prevent mortality after planting, it is always advisable to remove the plants from the nursery along with the earth round the roots. But this method is not followed generally in Coorg and therefore the percentage of mortality is very high after planting. The planting is done from June to September depending on the amount of rainfall. It is not advisable to plant during the monsoon rains. The soil should not be too wet or dry, but it should be in a friable condition when the planting is done. A partial shade has to be maintained in a newly planted area. The planted area should be given deep digging or deep ploughing for the first two years ; thereafter, care is taken to keep off the weeds. It is found advantageous to raise some cash crops or some green manure plants for a period of five years in the orchard to enrich the soil. In the initial stage, a slight dose of cattle manure and ammonium sulphate at the rate of 20 pounds of cattle manure and eight ounces of ammonium sulphate are given for each plant starting from the second year and this rate is gradually increased till the tree is in a position to give commercial yield. After the fifteenth year, 150 pounds of cattle manure are applied per tree together with seven pounds of ammonium sulphate and five pounds of bone meal.

Except for the removal of the dead wood and water suckers, the orange trees in Coorg are not given any regular shoot-pruning. Slight pruning is given in the young stage of a tree to bring it to a shape and size suitable for orchard operations. Root pruning can be given once in six years to kill the old roots. The cultivators in orange gardens in Coorg do not give a digging every year.

Irrigation.—Care of the orange nursery is a specialised task in Coorg. The young plants in the nursery are watered by hand wherever there is facility for this. As the nurseries are raised on hill slopes, hand-watering becomes increasingly difficult. It is of paramount importance to protect the young plants in the nursery from the heat of the summer sun. By way of providing shade, small pandals are erected. This method of pandal shade is found to be expensive. Heavy mulching with dried leaves and watering the beds once daily is found to be better than putting up a pandal over the nursery.

Being a seasonal fruit, Coorg oranges are only available during the main orange season from December to March. Over 85 per

cent of the total production comes to market during this short period. In the absence of any large consuming market in Coorg, most of the produce has to be marketed outside. Most of the supplies are diverted to Mysore and Bangalore. At present, there are no facilities for cold storage or for processing the fruit. It is to be noted that in adition to Coorg oranges, the markets are flooded at the same time with oranges coming from Kerala and other regions. In order to ensure profitable disposal of oranges to the grower in Coorg, it has become imperative to introduce scientific methods of handling this perishable fruit. This can easily be brought about by establishing grading and packing centres, juice extraction centres or juice extraction mobile units inside Coorg and establishing cold storage warehouses in consuming centres like Bangalore.

Cardamom.

Cardamom (Kannada name: Elakki) is yet another important plantation crop in Coorg and this was grown in an area covering 15,245 acres in 1962-63 in all the three taluks of the district, Mercara taluk alone accounting for 9,611 acres. The ownership of a fine cardamom garden is regarded as a mine of wealth. At the time of the Coorg Rajas and for some time after, cardamom was a State monopoly and the growers had to sell their produce at a fixed rate to the Government receiving from Rs. 12 to 20 per maund of 40 seers. The cardamom plant grows of its own accord in the evergreen forests along the ghat line and its spurs at an elevation of 3,000 to 5,000 feet. Nature also helps in the stimulation of the plant. The cardamom requires a rich moist soil in a bracing hill climate, accessible to sea breezes and favoured by deep shade and partial sunshine. A western or northern hill slope offers many-sided advantage for raising this crop. The crop is propagated mostly by seedlings. In the month following the autumnal equinox, a cluster of from three to five stems, with the roots adhering, are separated from the bunch, and planted in a row and in the case of seedlings two seedlings are planted in pits 6 feet apart. The ground around the cardamom is manured with *nelli* (*emblica*) leaves. In the third year, about the autumnal equinox, it produces fruit. The capsules are gathered as they ripen and are dried for four days on a mat or in specially built drying houses by means of artificial heat. They are then fit for marketing Whenever the whole fruit has been removed, the plants are raised and all the superfluous stems and roots having been separated, they are set again. Care is taken never to set a plant in the spot from whence it was raised, a change in this respect being considered necessary. Next year these plants give no fruit but in the year following they yield capsules. After transplantation, the old stems die and new ones spring from the roots. Each cardamom cluster produces from a quarter to one seer weight of cardamom. The acreage under cardamom is being enlarged with proper incentives. At the beginning of the Second Plan period the total area

under this crop was 11,524 acres, with an annual outturn of 350 tons. Extensive damage is being caused to the crop by various pests and diseases. In the Third Plan period, a financial allocation of rupees three lakhs has been made and it is proposed to continue the development scheme with expanded activities. A physical target of 1,000 more acres, 750 demonstration plots and two nurseries to raise one lakh seedlings per annum has been fixed. There is also provision to advance loans for new cardamom plantations.

Ragi. Ragi (*Eleusine corocana*) is grown only in Somwarpet taluk in an area covering 5,394 acres during 1962-63. Improved varieties like K-1 and H-22 are quite popular in the district. The present average yield per acre is about 400 lbs. The yield can be increased considerably if more area is brought under transplanting. The transplanting of the crop has many advantages as this practice tends to lower the seed rate, offers clean cultivation, allows interculturing and facilitates assured crop even with less rainfall. Ragi in the district grows on soils free from stones and gravel. The root system of the ragi plant is remarkably extensive, though somewhat shallow and soils possessing the proper texture and moisture-holding capacity are required for its cultivation. The ragi crop commences from April and it is not concerned with the south-west monsoon since it is grown as a dry crop. Preparation of the field consists of ploughing and tilling the land The ploughing proper begins with the very first showers of rain and ploughing is repeated or in the alternative the *Kunte* is worked. The improved mould board ploughs are of great advantage and effect considerable saving in the number of ploughings required. Since transplanting involves more time and more labour than drilling, the same could be easily compensated by using mould board ploughs Application of about eight cartloads of farm-yard manure before sowing and about one cwt. of fertiliser mixture consisting of ammonium sulphate and super phosphate and about one cwt. of the above mixture eight weeks after sowing gives very good results in the case of drilled ragi.

Ragi is familiarly called the national millet of Mysore and it has many valuable features, which mark it off sharply from other foodgrains. It is one of the hardest crops suited for dry farming. It is a grain of high nutritive value and is considered very sustaining for people doing hard physical work.

Pepper. Pepper (Kannada name : *Kari Menasu*).—This crop is not so extensive as cardamom and is grown in Mercara, Somwarpet and Ponnampet areas. The total acreage under this crop was 894 during 1962-63. The Mercara area alone accounts for nearly 730 acres. As the cultivation of pepper is a delicate process, constant care and attention are necessary. In Coorg, pepper is grown in coffee estates. The plant requires shade and constant husbanding. The annual output of pepper in Coorg is about 120 tons. On

account of its value as a dollar earner, earnest attempts are being made to give added incentives to the cultivators. In the Second Plan period, a total sum of Rs. 1,40,250 was spent to develop this crop. In the Third Plan period, a provision of Rs. 1.20 lakhs has been made to continue the scheme of development. It is proposed to increase the acreage under cultivation to 1,500 acres.

There are a large number of pepper varieties differentiated by the lengths of the spike and the size and density of the berries on the spike. The varieties also differ in their time of flowering. Important Malabar varieties grown in the district are Kalluvalli, Balamkotti, Cheniakodi and Uthirankotta. The local varieties are known as Malligesara, Tattesara and Moratta.

A plantation containing about 350 vines yields 300 to 500 pounds of dry pepper per acre. The dry pepper is 75 per cent of the green by weight. Pepper is also collected from wild pepper vines in the forest areas.

Arecanut (778 acres), tea (1222 acres) and coconuts (212 acres) are only minor garden and plantation crops in the district

Vegetables.

Kitchen vegetables are grown here and there to serve the bigger towns in the district. In the rural area, the cultivators grow some vegetables for their daily use. The various kinds of vegetables grown in the district are brinjals, beet-root, radish of Japan, red and white varieties, beans, cauliflower of the Simla variety, cabbages, tomato, knolkhol, carrot, turnips and greens.

Vegetable-growing is fast developing in the district. Departmental nurseries are being maintained in each taluk to propagate healthy seed stock for distribution to the vegetable growers. A vegetable-*cum*-demonstration farm is to be located in the district during the Fourth Five-Year Plan.

Progress of scientific agriculture.

Scientific agriculture is essential for growing more from the cultivated field. In the old days, the average cultivator never bothered to develop his fields. He was quite satisfied with what he grew. But with the advance of science and new methods in farming, the State is doing its best to promote developmental schemes. Improved implements and appliances as approved by the State Agricultural Department are being introduced. Improved seeds are made available. Plant protection methods to obviate pests and diseases are being undertaken promptly, when necessary.

Implements.

In the old days, the agricultural implements were few and of the rudest type. The plough, made by the cultivator himself, consists of a wood plough-share with an iron point, a wooden

handle and a pole for the yoke. The plough is so light that the farmer himself carries it to the field on his shoulders. The *tawe* which is like the harrow is generally a simple board to which a split bamboo is fastened to connect it with the yoke. The driver of the harrow standing on the board adds to the efficiency of the operation, be it for pulverising dry fields in the eastern parts of the district or levelling the wet fields. A strong sickle or a *mumti* or hoe completes the stock of agricultural implements. At present, the use of the iron plough is gaining popularity throughout the district. The Gurjai ploughs and P.S.G ploughs are popular with the cultivators. The wet land puddler and the Japanese rotary weeders have also been introduced. Practical demonstrations on the use of improved implements were held in fields by the departmental staff as a result of which most of the farmers have realised the importance of using improved agricultural implements like iron ploughs and Japanese inter-cultivators.

According to the Statistical Abstract of Mysore (1960-61), there were in the district, 1,000 iron ploughs in use. According to the statistics furnished by the District Agricultural authorities, 112 iron ploughs and 12 paddy cultivation weeders were distributed to cultivators from 1st April 1963 to 30th September 1963.

Improved seeds.

Paddy is the most important cereal grown in Coorg district. Realising the importance of pure seeds at village centres, the State Government planned a programme of saturating nucleus paddy seeds at all village centres. The nucleus seeds developed at the Government Farm at Ponnampet were released to cultivators in order to encourage them to grow quality paddy in their holdings. As the arrangement for the multiplication of improved and quality seeds was found inadequate, a Seed Multiplication Farm was established at the Kudige Government Farm in 1957. Under this scheme, the progress achieved during 1962-63 was as follows:—

Quantity of foundation seed distributed to registered seed growers.—50 quintals.

Area cultivated by registered seed growers.—500 acres.

Quantity of improved seed distributed by registered seed-growers—224.23 Metric tons.

Area covered under improved seed.—24,604 acres.

The Kudige Seed Farm attached to the main farm is situated at a distance of three miles from Kushalnagar. The farm was started on 1st April 1957 to serve the taluks of Somwarpet, Ponnampet and Mercara. The extent of the farm is about 25 acres of which 20 acres are actually cultivated.

Fertilisers

The cultivators in Coorg have realised the importance of using nitrogenous, phosphatic and other modern fertilisers which go to increase crop yield. The demand for various kinds of fertilisers is increasing. During 1960-61, 3,000 tons of ammonium sulphate, 1,400 tons of super-phosphate and 600 tons of bonemeal were distributed to the cultivators.

During 1962-63, the following quantities of nitrogenous fertilisers were distributed through co-operative societies.

	Tons
Ammonium Sulphate	1,636
Urea .. .	90
Ammonium Sulphate Nitrate ..	617
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate ..	297

In addition, 370 tons of phosphatic and 85 tons of pottassic fertilisers had also been distributed from other sources.

Compost.

The soils in Coorg district are generally deficient in nitrogen which is basic for all the crops and hence it is necessary to convert cattle dung and other wastes into good compost manure by adopting improved techniques. During 1962-63, a total of roughly five lakh tons of compost was conserved.

Green-leaf application.

To meet the nitrogen deficiency of the soils, green leaf application in addition to the application of other organic manures like compost or farm yard manure was popularised. The area covered under green leaf in the district in 1960-61 was 60,000 acres.

During 1962-63, nearly two tons of different varieties of green manure seeds were distributed. In addition to this, 3.400 glyricidia cuttings, 65,000 glyricidia seedlings and 2,000 Sesbania seedlings were also distributed. An area of 42,079 acres was brought under green leaf against the target of 33,000 acres.

Reclamation of fallow lands.

In Coorg district, there are stretches of private fallow lands which can easily be brought back to cultivation. Financial assistance is given to reclaim fallow lands. The scheme contemplates the payment of a subsidy of 25 per cent of the total estimated cost incurred by the farmers. During the Second Plan period, fallow lands were reclaimed at the rate of 800 acres every year.

Plant protection.

The scheme of protecting the plants from pests and diseases was started in the district in 1948. It envisaged an effective campaign against the periodical and seasonal outbreaks of pests and diseases attacking the various crops. The insecticides and fungicides required to treat the crops were supplied to the farmers either on concession rate or at actual cost depending on the extent of the damage.

Under the plant protection scheme, the issue of equipments like sprayers and dusters at 50 per cent concession rate is in operation in the district since 1959-60. The following table indicates the details of distribution of sprayers and dusters since 1959-60.

Year.		*Sprayers.*	*Dusters.*
1959-60	..	300	4
1960-61	..	314	5
1961-62	..	270	9
1962-63	..	145	5

This scheme has become popular in the district. If this scheme is continued, it goes a long way in protecting the crops from pests and diseases. The estimated loss from pests and diseases is about 15 to 20 per cent a year. The Agricultural Department is stocking a buffer stock of plant protection materials in the various depots to cater to the needs of cultivators. Necessary arrangement is also being made to stock plant protection materials by all the co-operative societies.

Organisations.

Youth clubs and Young Farmers' Associations are working under the National Extension Service Blocks. The activities of these organisations consist in getting up cultural programmes, together with the agricultural development work. As an incentive to the programme of developing scientific modes of agriculture, youth rallies at the block and district level are held periodically. The Muller Youth Club attached to the Somwarpet Block was adjudged the best club.

Agricultural farms.

There are three Agricultural Farms in Coorg district, *viz.*, (1) the Government Agricultural Research and Demonstration Farm at Kudige near Kushalnagar with an area of 470.36 acres under a Farm Superintendent, (2) the Government Agricultural Farm at Mercara with an area of 23.74 acres under an Agricultural Demonstrator and (3) the Agricultural Farm at Ponnampet with an area of 57.03 acres under a Botanical Assistant.

The farm at Mercara is essentially a demonstration farm where different varieties of paddy strains best suited for the area are evolved. In addition to the work on the paddy strains, a cardamom nursery has been started with a view to supply quality seedlings to the cardamom growers. Growing of English and local varieties of vegetables has become a common feature at this farm and good and fresh vegetables are supplied to the residents of Mercara town during winter and summer seasons.

In the Ponnampet farm, research work is being conducted for evolving suitable high-yielding and disease-resistant strains of paddy and to determine the optimum fertiliser dosage and the best methods of cultivation.

The farm at Kudige near Kushalnagar is a research and demonstration farm where various types of experiments and research are conducted on different field crops. Important crops grown with improved methods of cultivation are demonstrated to the cultivators. Improved seeds of high-yielding strains of paddy and ragi are distributed to the farmers from this farm.

Central Apiary.

There is a Central Apiary at Bhagamandala under an Agricultural Development Officer. The apiary activities in Coorg are carried on by him with the help of three bee-organisers, one in each of the three taluks of Coorg. These organisers are assisted by bee-men. The Central Apiary at Bhagamandala handles all the problems pertaining to the bee-keeping industry in Coorg.

Diseases and Pests.

The diseases and pests that attack the important crops and measures for their control are given below:—

Diseases.

Paddy.

Blast, leaf spot and seed-borne diseases: These are controlled by spraying one per cent Bordeaux mixture or by the use of Peronox (five ounces in ten gallons). The seed-borne disease is controlled by the use of Agrosan.

Oranges.

Gummosis, pink disease, leaf fall and fruit rot, mildew and mottle leaf: Spraying with Bordeaux mixture and sulphur dusting are the usual control measures. Investigations are proceeding to control the mottle leaf disease on oranges.

Coffee.

Black rot is the usual infestation. This is controlled by spraying with Bordeaux mixture.

Pests.

Paddy.

Paddy is attacked by Hispa and Leptispa, hairy caterpillar, rice bug, stem-borer and paddy grasshopper. The pests are controlled by the use of Gammaxene D.D.T., Folidol and B.H.C. 50.

Cardamom

Hairy caterpillar on cardamom is controlled by spraying Folidol, one ounce in eight gallons of water. Aphids on cardamom are controlled by spraying with B.H.C. 50.

Coffee

The coffee plant is prey to many diseases of which the leaf disease is widely prevalent. This is a fungus growth named *hemileia vastratrix* which distributes its spores in the form of yellow powder. The effect of this disease is to strip the coffee plant more or less of its foliage. The other pest affecting the coffee plant is the borer. This is due to a beetle, red or yellow

in colour with black lines and about as large as a horsefly. It lays its eggs in some crevice in the bark. The larvae when hatched bores into the stem. Coffee plants attacked by the borer wither away soon. Another common disease found in the coffee estates is the rot disease, also a fungus growth which covers the leaves so as to make them rot.

Oranges

A great variety of insects attack the leaves, flowers and fruits. Among those which cause the most obvious damage are those which eat the foliage or denude the young trees in the nursery or even in the orchard, but the damage is of no consequence in older trees. The caterpillar commonly known as "Orange Dog" in Coorg is the most troublesome pest on young orange trees. Daily hand-picking of the caterpillars both in the nursery and planted area is necessary for controlling them. The orange leaf minor also occurs in Coorg. It feeds on the sap and makes a serpentine tunnel on the leaf area. The removal of the infested leaves and spraying with nicotine sulphate is a preventive measure. Orange shoot and stem borer cause severe damage to orange trees in Coorg. The stem-borer leaves definite and easily visible marks of its presence on branches or even on main stems. The remedy is to remove the borer-infested parts of the tree and burn them. When the attack is on the main stem, it is not possible to cut and remove the stem. So it is advisable to put a few drops of petrol to the holes and plug them and this suffocates and kills the borer. The fruit-sucking moth and fruit fly are considered as major pests on fruits. Considerable numbers of fruits are lost from the attack of these pests. Mealy bugs, green bugs and thrips can be controlled by spraying with parathion compound. White ants often attack the tree stems and branches but this can be kept off by removing all dried sticks from the orchard, by locating and destroying the queen and by smearing the tree trunk with Bordeaux paste to serve as a deterrent. The common diseases which affect orange trees are the mildew, pink disease, leaf and fruit fall, root rot and collar rot, citrus die-back or frenching disease and gummosis. Gummosis is a common and widely prevalent disease on orange trees in Coorg. This attacks the stem which slowly starts to decay and a gum-like substance oozes from the wounds inflicted.

Animal Husbandry and Fisheries.

Cattle wealth is of paramount importance to a population whose main occupation is agriculture. According to the Ninth Quinquennial Livestock Census (1961), the total livestock population of the district is 4,98,092, which includes cattle, buffaloes,

sheep, goats, horses and ponies, poultry and donkeys. The following table shows the distribution of various types of livestock in the Coorg District.

Cattle	..	..	1,72,210
Buffaloes	..	..	36,756
Sheep	..	..	3,053
Goats	..	..	4,587
Horses and ponies	..	..	235
Desi poultry	..	..	2,20,758
Improved variety of poultry		..	60,982
Donkeys	..	..	102

The cattle in this area are of a nondescript type. In order to upgrade the local type of cattle, the Sindhi breed among cows and the Murrah breed among buffaloes have been introduced. Sindhi and Murrah breeding bulls are stationed in various centres and also with private breeders. This method of upgrading the local cattle is going on in the district since many years and it is of particular interest to note that many herds of graded Sindhis are seen in different parts of the district. In some localities where rainfall is not excessive, there are types of Hallikar breed and in those places the same breed is encouraged.

Key Village Scheme.

All efforts in the direction of livestock development had been originally concentrated in Government farms but this could not touch even the fringe of the problem. A systematic effort for the development of livestock was made during the Second Five Year Plan by launching what is known as the Key Village Scheme. A key village is a compact area consisting of one or more contiguous villages where intensive work is done on all aspects of livestock development, namely breeding, feeding, disease control, management and marketing. There are four Key Village Centres established in line with the All-India Key Village pattern during the plan period with full facility for artificial insemination among cattle. These four Key Village Centres are located at Kudige, Somwarpet, Ponnampet and Ammathi. In addition to these, some of the rural veterinary dispensaries are equipped with artificial insemination sets to facilitate work in such places. The main object of this scheme is to upgrade the local nondescript cattle with a well-defined breed by controlled scientific methods. In each of these centres, two breeding bulls, *viz.*, one Sindhi and one Murrah, are maintained for semen collection. In the Kudige Key Village Centre, three breeding bulls, *viz.*, two Hallikar and one Murrah, are maintained as the area is mainly a Hallikar tract.

Calf Subsidy Scheme.

Under the Key Village Scheme, about 40 bull calves from Kudige and Somwarpet areas have been selected and a subsidy of Rs. 10 per month is given to the custodian of each calf.

Gosadans. There are two Gosadan Centres in the district, one at Hudugur (North Coorg) and the other at Devammachi (South Coorg). There are no cattle-breeding stations or societies in the district. There are also no sheep and goat rearing farms

Cattle Fairs. The important cattle fairs in this district are (1) The Kushalnagar Cattle Fair which takes place at Kushalnagar, (2) Kodlipet Cattle Show at Kodlipet in Sanivarasanthe Hobli, (3) Gudugallale Jatra at Sanivarsanthe and (4) Someshwara Cattle Show and Key Village Show at Somwarpet. In addition to these, calf rallies in each key village centre and gosamvardhana celebrations are being held once in a year.

During 1962-63, mass castration of 5,017 scrub bulls was undertaken. The castration is not done compulsorily except in key village areas, but the people have been coming forward of their own accord to get scrub bulls castrated.

Cross-breeding Scheme. With a view to intensifying the upgrading of the local hilly type of cattle of the Malnad area, the Cross Breeding Scheme was started in 1959 with its headquarters at Mercara. There are four sub-centres located at Madapur, Suntikoppa, Chettalli and Siddapur In these centres, the local cows are inseminated with Jersey semen.

Poultry Development Scheme. The people of Coorg possess a natural aptitude for poultry rearing. A small poultry unit was attached to the veterinary dispensary at Somwarpet for preliminary studies to find out the suitable breed that will fit into the varying climatic condition of this district. Simultaneously, this poultry unit was to serve as a demonstration farm catering for the needs of interested breeders with eggs and birds of exotic breeds. This small unit was opened in 1947 with a limited number of 60 layers of Rhode Island Red and White Leghorn received from Etawah in Uttar Pradesh. The facilities then offered were very meagre and it was with much difficulty that the farm could run on a sound technical programme. However, after 1952, under the First Plan, the Government extended all help and encouragement to improve the farm and its activities. The farm was gradually placed in a position to cater for the increased demand of eggs and chicks. A pucca farm incorporating all the modern technical standards not only to supply birds and eggs but also to serve as a training centre for both the raiyats and the development workers was started at Kudige in 1955. At the beginning, the Kudige farm had 1052 birds of all ages including 106 layers with 20 breeding pens for 200 layers. The breeds maintained at the Kudige farm are the White Leghorn, Brown Leghorn, Rhode Island Red, Black Minorca and Plymouth Rock. In addition to the Central Poultry Farm at Kudige, three more poultry units are attached to the veterinary dispensaries at Somwarpet, Ponnampet and Murnad. The Somwarpet unit was

started in 1958, the Ponnampet unit began to function from 1956 and the Murnad unit was ushered in 1958.

As on 31st March 1963, there were 3,478 birds of all breeds in the Kudige Central Poultry Farm. The number of eggs produced during 1962-63 amounted to 1,04,906. Out of this number, 24,112 eggs were used for hatching. A total of 8,598 eggs were sold for hatching purposes; 71,147 eggs were sold for table purposes.

Piggery Scheme.

Under the piggery development scheme, 50 boars of exotic breeds have been supplied to the breeders in the district to upgrade the local nondescript breed of pigs. The custodians are given a subsidy of Rs. 5 per month.

Dairy Farm.

In 1953, a dairy farm was established at Kudige. In this farm, 250 animals consisting of Sindhi and Murrah breeds are maintained. A milk supply scheme is working at the Kudige farm. On an average, this scheme handles about 4,000 lbs. of milk including the dairy farm production. The milk is supplied to people in Mercara, Somwarpet and Virajpet. The modern type of high temperature, short-time pasteurisation plant costing Rs. 13,00,000 has been installed and put into commission.

Veterinary Treatment.

The veterinary wing of the Animal Husbandry Department is devoted mainly to the treatment and prevention of animal diseases. The Coorg district is served by six veterinary dispensaries and 20 rural veterinary dispensaries. Their location is noted below.

Place of the Veterinary Dispensary	*Place of the Rural Veterinary Dispensaries*
1. Mercara ..	(1) Suntikoppa
	(2) Murnad
	(3) Sampaje
2. Napoklu ..	(1) Bhagamandala
	(2) Kakkabe
3. Somwarpet ..	(1) Kodlipet
	(2) Shantahalli
	(3) Sanivarasanthe
	(4) Madapur
4. Kushalnagar ..	(1) Hebbale
5. Ponnampet ..	(1) Kutta
	(2) Srimangala
	(3) Tithimathi
	(4) Hudikeri
	(5) Ballale
	(6) Marenad

Place of the Veterinary Dispensary		*Place of the Rural Veterinary Dispensaries*
6. Ammathi	..	(1) Virajpet
		(2) Siddapur
		(3) Kadanga
		(4) Pollibetta

The activities of the Department of Animal Husbandry in this district consist mainly of treatment, prevention against diseases, castration of scrub bulls and upgrading of local cattle by artificial insemination and natural service.

Diseases.

The contagious diseases generally prevalent are Haemorrhagic Septicimia, Black quarter, Anthrax, and Foot and Mouth. These are controlled by means of inoculations. Rinderpest was once a menace but this is under check due to the mass inoculation programme started in 1956.

Though Coorg is a small district, it is quite prominent in the matter of dairy farms, key village centres, poultry units and gosadan centres.

Fisheries Development.

The fishery development work was started in Coorg in 1952 with a skeleton staff of one Inspector, one Demonstration Maistry and one Fieldman, with a budget provision of Rs. 5,270. During the first year of the scheme (1952-53) about 25 acres of water were brought under fish culture. At the initial stages, it was quite a problem to find co-operation from the public to take to piscicultural practices on scientific lines, as they had their own preferences for the age-old practices. During the period of survey, it was found that a number of tanks in Coorg covering quite a few hundreds of acres were in derelict condition, either being overgrown with weeds or with breached bunds. During 1952-53, the community projects administration ushered in a new phase in the development of fish culture. With this aid, it was possible for strengthening the staff by one more fieldman and three fishermen. Quick growing economical carp like Bengal carp and Mirror carp were introduced in several tanks and were scientifically managed and their growth rates and economical possibilities even in small tanks were demonstrated to the public. In the earlier years of the fisheries development work, 2,000 Mirror carp fingerlings were imported into Coorg and stocked in different parts. Twenty thousand Bengal carp fry were air-lifted from Barrackpore to Bangalore and transported to Coorg.

Mirror carp, which is an exotic variety, is being reared and fingerlings are being distributed for stocking in selected ponds in N.E.S. areas and ponds of private fish culturists.

The Department of Fisheries in this district is under an Inspector with the necessary staff. At the end of the Second Plan period, fish fingerlings were imported and supplied to private parties and also stocked in 80 tanks. A quantity of 18,053 lbs. of fish was marketed and 209 licences for angling were issued. The chief purpose of the fisheries plan in the district is to step up the culture and the output of fish. A total provision of Rs. 1.20 lakhs has been earmarked for the Third Plan period. It is proposed to have a nursery covering four acres for production and rearing of fish seed. It is also proposed to distribute ten lakhs of fish seed during the Third Plan period. The target for the supply of fishery requisites to fishermen is 50 units at a cost of about Rs. 500 a unit. It is also proposed to construct a fish market for the sale of fish in hygienic conditions at the headquarters town. The scheme is to be implemented through the Inspector of Fisheries and will be under the Development Division at Hassan.

Floods, Famines and Droughts.

As the district gets a heavy rainfall under the influence of the south-west monsoon, floods are a common occurrence. Whenever the normal annual rainfall falls short of expectations, drought conditions occur. The district is free from famines. Only scarcity conditions appear now and then because of the failure of the monsoons and the attendant shortfall in agricultural production. A brief description of the natural calamities is given here.

1868-69.—The crops along the eastern parts bordering on Mysore district suffered much from the utter failure of the later rains. As the food production was not up to the expected quantity, large-scale remissions were ordered. The total rainfall in the year was only 93.74 inches which is the lowest on record in Coorg. In 1867-68, the rainfall was 109.0 inches.

1871-72.—The rainfall in this year was 130 inches as against 108.06 in 1870-71. The fall of rain lasted longer and was lighter and more continuous during monsoon months. Heavy rainfall in North Coorg in November caused streams and rivers to overflow thus causing damage to the newly cut crops.

1900-01.—It was always believed that the people in Coorg would never experience famine or distress, so long as the rains were adequate. In 1900-01, due to failure of rains, the area did experience almost actual famine conditions. It underwent much suffering. Due to seasonal conditions, existing stock of foodgrains ran out causing much hardship. High price added to the difficulty.

Floods in 1924-25.—The floods of August 1923 were altogether surpassed in severity by those of July 1924. Fortunately, these floods came earlier in the season and there was enough time in which to replant damaged paddy lands. The unexpected monsoon rains which lashed the area in July 1924 caused serious floods all

over Coorg. There were landslips along the marginal banks of almost every Kovu (paddy plains) in Coorg, while in the Barapole valley slips descended 2,000 feet from the Marenad plateau, sweeping away the forests down to the bare rock. On July 17, 1924, Mercara town registered 14.35 inches of rainfall and on July 25th, Bhagamandala received 33.15 inches of rainfall. The latter is almost the total rainfall in a year in Bangalore District. The total rainfall at the Bhagamandala station for the month of July 1924 was 223.06 inches and this abnormal fall at the source of the Cauvery river was largely responsible for the serious damage on the lower courses of the river, particularly in the delta regions. For nearly three days, Coorg was cut off by road and telegraph from the outside world. Serious landslides blocked the Siddapur ghat road and the Kuttampuzha girder bridge on the Periambady ghat road to Tellicherry was washed away by an enormous landslide. The Mangalore ghat road suffered only one serious slip. Bhagamandala village suffered most. Floods also reached the lower portions of Frasterpet (Kushalnagar) and the main street of Ramapura. The 1924 floods caused untold misery and hardship to the people.

1952-53.—The monsoon in the beginning was favourable but failed abruptly from September to November. This resulted in poor crops.

1961 Floods.—In the living memory of the people in Coorg, an unprecedented heavy rainfall during the 1961 monsoon period caused heavy damage to crops and property. The total rainfall in 1961 was 240 inches. Statistics of losses were worked out by the Revenue authorities.

The total loss to various field crops was about Rs. 1,00,33,350. The State Government allotted Rs. 85 lakhs for relief works. Several landslips occurred on the Sampaje ghat road wiping out a portion of the arterial highway to South Kanara. Public transport was diverted from Mangalore to Mercara *via* Bhagamandala road. In the history of Coorg, the 1961 floods were the worst on record.

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

Introduction

RAPID industrialization of the country has been one of the main objectives of the Five-Year Plans and the district of Coorg can take its due share in this effort on the basis of its considerable potential for industrial growth by utilising its forest wealth, agricultural raw materials and by the generation of power. Though Coorg is agriculturally prosperous, it must be admitted that it has been so far backward in industrial development. Out of the total area of 1,590 square miles, the district has about 520 square miles under forests and its prosperity in the future will depend on the judicious exploitation of forest wealth for industrial development. Lt. Connor in his " Memoir of the Codagu Survey—Koorg ", had this to say : " The whole of Codagu proper is clothed with stately forest, it is however the declivities of the ghauts where the trees attain their greatest magnitude, this stupendous ridge which though steep is neither broken or rocky, and is everywhere covered with a rich stratum of mould, brings to maturity timber of a prodigious size ; a large portion of the eastern boundary presents a wide extent of forest, but though by no means of scanty growth, it is comparatively so, with that which shades this chain of mountains. Bamboos in all their varieties compose a large part of interminable woods, and this most useful, and beautiful reed, is here found in the greatest excellence. The jungles are difficult to traverse ; in many places the Rattan of various dimensions, and nearly of as good a quality as that brought from the eastern islands, together with the delicate reed from which the Hindoos make their pens, aided by innumerable plants and creepers, not unfrequently forming an impervious underwood ".[1] Again, he has remarked : " The woods of Codagu deserve a moment's remark, they are infinitely superior in point of extent, density, age and stature to those of Bullum and Wynaad : indeed, it may be said that every species of vegetation attains a degree of luxuriance if not rankness, quite foreign in the neighbouring countries : both flowers and blossoms have a brilliancy and variety unknown in the plains, and many of the wild plants possess a share of aromatic qualities, both as to odour and

---

1. Memoir of the Codagu Survey—Koorg—Part I, 1817, p. 35.

flavour. Amongst the numerous descriptions of Gum-trees, the Gamboge is said to be found. The Raspberry and Blackberry are seen in abundance amongst the hills. The foliage of these vast forests is extremely exuberant, and but slightly deciduous, refreshed by constant dews, it retains perennially the bright tints of vegetation. With such a soil, and in the climate of the more elevated parts, there is every reason to suppose, that the vegetable productions of more frigid regions could be successfully naturalised "[1].

Thus, it is clear that the district of Coorg is rich in forest wealth. Besides, agricultural raw materials of considerable value like coffee and rice are raised every year. In the past, very little effort was made to utilise the abundant resources or even to systematically assess the extent of this wealth However, since planned development was taken up in 1951, various attempts have been made to take stock of the district's resources, thus carrying out one of the functions of the Planning Commission of making "an assessment of the material resources" for formulating "a plan for the most effective and balanced utilisation of the country's resources". In the course of this chapter, an attempt has been made to give a brief appraisal of the district's industrial development.

Old-time Industries.

There were a few small scale industries in the past. The capital invested in each industry was meagre and was mostly indigenous It was the local craftsmanship that accounted for the early industries rather than either the organisation or the technique among them. The industrial section of the population was mostly concerned with woodwork in its various forms. For such labour there was a natural demand The textile industry was practically non-existent; it was probably cheaper to buy ready-made cloth than to import cotton and other raw materials for weaving. An important old-time industry was pottery. Relics found in 1856 by Dr. Moegling and in 1868 by Lieutenant Mackenzie near Fraserpet (Kushalnagar) on the then Mysore side of the Cauvery have made this clear Lewis Rice says that "The relics found in them are peculiarly shaped pottery, buried in earth .... The vessels contain earth, sand, bones, iron spear heads, and beads. The pottery consists of pots and urns of burnt clay and is of red or black colour. Some resemble the ordinary native pots of various sizes; others are narrow urns from one to two feet high, contracted towards the mouth and tapering towards the bottom, where 3 or 4 short legs give them support for standing upright They are smooth and shining, but can hardly be said to be glazed "[2]

---

1. Memoir of the Codagu Survey—Koorg Part II, 1817, p 21.
2. "Mysore and Coorg", A Gazetteer compiled for the Government of India, by Lewis Rice, Vol. III, "Coorg", 1878, p. 298.

It is on record that the Kammarbands or girdle scarfs with an ornamental border which were worn by the Coorgs were manufactured in the village of Sirangala. In North Coorg, the coarse cotton cloth worn by field labourers was made and a fine variety of cloth was woven in very small quantities at Kodlipet. It is also on record that the Coorg knives, some of which were highly finished and handsomely chased, were the only articles in Coorg worthy of notice. Mr. J. Chartres Molony has written in 1912 that, " There are 190 male workers in iron ; drawn probably from the 500 male members of the artisan caste................ The characteristic metal work of Coorg is the heavy Coorg knife, carried at the back in a simple but ingenious metal clasp. Two fine specimens of this knife, marked with the initials of Viraraja and Lingaraja, I saw in Mercara ; but in these piping times of peace the demand for the article must needs be on the wane ; its only present use is in friendly contests of skill, or on festive occasions, as when a bridgegroom is required to cut through the trunk of a plantain tree at one stroke."[1]

Almost every article used in this part of the country was imported ; the village carpenters and blacksmiths did nothing but the rudest work. There was absence of organised industries of any kind conducted on a large-scale. By 1931, however, one tea factory at Hudikeri in South Coorg and two rice mills in North and South Coorg came into being. Though Coorg is agriculturally prosperous, it is a fact that it is backward in industrial development. After the Second World War, a few cottage industries like pottery, mat-weaving, basket-making and blacksmithy were started. But they are all extremely unorganised, conducting their operations by time-worn methods and unassured of regular or remunerative markets. Leaving apart these unorganised cottage industries, it is to be mentioned that even now, there is not a single large-scale industry in the whole of Coorg. The Government have started a saw mill at Murkal and a Central Industrial Workshop at Mercara ; but even these do not come under the description of large-scale industries. Even as regards small-scale industries, there are not many enterprises. But, under the impact of planned activity, there is bound to be a change in the near future, and the district is sure to take its rightful place in the industrial development of the State.

Factors responsible for the absence of industrial progress.— There are a number of factors responsible for the absence of industrial progress in the district of Coorg. First, there has never been any pressing " economic necessity " which accounts for the starting of industries. With its rich coffee, pepper and cardamom plantations, with its ever-smiling rice fields which get

1. Report and Tables, Census of India, 1911, by J. Chartres Molony, Vol. XI, Coorg, 1912, p. 20.

unfailing rainfall year after year, the district of Coorg has produced a class of people comparatively affluent and normally above want. This has resulted in the people's attention being diverted more towards the development of their agricultural pursuits rather than to starting industries. This fact reminds us of what Lt. Connor has said : "No town in Codagu can be said to be the seat of any manufacture, the feelings and habits of the aborigines quite unfit them for inert and sedentary pursuits ; manufacturing industry has made no progress amongst any part of the population. The labours of the inhabitants are directed to the business of agriculture, and they exchange the products of their soil for the manufactures of their neighbours".[1] Secondly, the people of Coorg are extremely "land-conscious". Agriculture is their first "love" and it is seldom that they allow any other occupation to compete with it. The *jamma* type of land tenure which does not permit alienation of the land has resulted in almost every person of Coorg coming into possession of some land or the other and it is quite natural that they love agriculture more than any other occupation.

Among the economic factors which also account for the absence of industries—large and small—in the district, may be mentioned lack of power, transport difficulties and scarcity of labour.

No part of Coorg is connected by rail. But there are seven main road outlets, one to South Kanara, two to Kerala and four to the old Mysore area. Hence, whatever raw material that has to come to Coorg or whatever product that has to leave the borders of Coorg would have to be conveyed only through lorries which results in abnormal transport costs, thus raising the cost of production and the market price of the product. Besides, it would be difficult to find markets outside because the products made in Coorg would have to bear sometimes double transport costs—that of conveyance of raw material into and of the finished product out of the district. This factor has to be kept in mind whenever an attempt is made to start an industry in Coorg.

The people of Coorg, it has already been said, are more "land-conscious" than "machine-minded". The *jamma* type of tenure and the "family system" (resembling the joint family system) which ensures bread to every one including the lazy, the infirm and the unemployed, have created a peculiar situation in this part of the country, namely, that there is employment to almost every one and very few suffer for want of jobs, so much so it has become difficult to induce the people to take to certain particular callings. An instance that will describe the extent of dearth of labour in Coorg is that out of 40,000 labourers employed in coffee plantations, only about a third are indigenous labourers

---

1. "Memoir of Codagu Survey—Koorg" Part I by Lt. Connor, 1817, p. 55

and the rest have been imported, mainly from Kerala. But this situation of scarcity of labour should not be taken to mean that every one in Coorg is "*fully employed*"; on the other hand, there is a lot of under-employment even among the agricultural classes and therefore the problem that has to be tackled in Coorg is not one of unemployment but of under-employment.

Added to this, the economic security of the people is another factor which has been responsible for the uninterestedness on the part of the people for certain industries. The people of Coorg are strongly bound by conventions and social prejudices which have gone so deeply into the social structure that a blacksmith's son dare not become a mat-weaver or a cane-worker. These conventions are, of course, fast losing ground but personal prejudices against certain vocations still persist among the people of Coorg. For instance, the people of Coorg seem to have a dislike of carpentry. Carpenters' work is considered to be beneath dignity and thus we find a total absence of this industry despite the rich timber wealth of Coorg. Similarly situated are other industries akin to carpentry like rattan work and canecraft.

The Government is fully conscious of the industrial backwardness of the district and very much alive to the need to improve the present situation. Serious attempts are being made to start and encourage new industries—mainly cottage and small-scale—both in the public and private sectors and to revitalise the existing industries by extending all possible aid to them. Under the successive Five-Year Plans, the Government, to mention only a few of its achievements in the industrial sector, has revived the languishing handloom industry, popularised and put on a healthy footing the bee-keeping industry, started training courses in carpentry and blacksmithy and formulated development schemes for half a dozen other industries, like bee-keeping, pottery, blacksmithy, sericulture, carpentry and hand-pounding of rice.

Power Supply

Electric power supply in Coorg was first provided in the year 1940. The Mechelec Engineering Company of Madras as the Managing Agents established "The Coorg Electricity Co., Ltd., Mercara". The company constructed a diesel station in Mercara for the supply of power to Mercara town only. The supply of electric power was not satisfactory from the outset. The generating plant broke down completely in 1949, resulting in stoppage of power supply for some months. The company effected some repairs and restored power supply which, however, continued to be unsatisfactory. The financial position of the company was not sufficiently sound to replace the old engines with new ones. This unsatisfactory position went on deteriorating. The street lights were not lit for many nights. The State Government of Coorg negotiated with the Government of Mysore to obtain bulk power from Mysore. As the conditions put forth

were not acceptable, the then Coorg Government, with the approval of the Government of India, decided to take over the assets of the Coorg Electric Company, and ultimately purchased the concern with land and equipment for a sum of Rs. 75,000. The power house was renovated immediately. Two "Man/Aeg Diesel Engine Generating Sets" with a capacity of 60 K.W. and 120 K.W. power were installed at a total cost of Rs. 1,32,820. The distribution lines were also repaired and remodelled wherever necessary. A new engine with a capacity of 90 K.W. was installed in May 1956. The total amount invested till the end of 1956 at Mercara including the purchase money was Rs. 3,33,456.

Under the First Five-Year Plan, the Government of India sanctioned, under the Rural Electrification Scheme, a loan of Rs. 7.41 lakhs to the then Coorg State with a view to extending power facilities to rural areas as well as increasing employment opportunities. Virajpet and Somwarpet towns were selected under this scheme and thermal stations were installed in these places. Virajpet station has two sets of 60 K.W. each and one set of 120 K.W. The power supply commenced in this place with effect from 24th March 1956. Somwarpet station has one set of 90 K.W. and one set of 60 K.W. engines. Electric power was made available with effect from 9th February 1956.

Under the Second Five-Year Plan, the area from Kushalnagar to Sirangala, with the Kudige Agricultural and Dairy Farm in the middle was selected for electrification. In this area, the crops are liable to fail since there are no irrigation facilities. Electric energy in these parts can be usefully utilised both for lighting and irrigation purposes. With this object in view, a scheme for the electrification of the Kushalnagar—Kudige area was taken up and Kushalnagar and Kudige were electrified. The Krishnarajanagar-Kushalnagar 66 K.W. transmission line was erected. Kodlipet and Sanivarasanthe towns are being fed from Hassan end. These are the only four places (Kushalnagar, Kudige, Kodlipet and Sanivarasanthe) which are being provided with hydel power from Jog. This power is supplied from Krishnarajanagar. The question of bulk power supply from Mysore to Coorg was under consideration for the last several years. The scheme was included under the First Five-Year Plan but no progress was made in implementing the scheme as final settlement was not reached between the then Governments of Mysore and Coorg regarding the terms and conditions under which supply of power was to be made. At the instance of the Planning Commission, this scheme was again included in the Second Plan. As Coorg became part of Mysore by then, it was easy to supply hydel power. For supply of power to four places, viz., Kushalnagar, Kudige, Kodlipet and Sanivarasanthe and for the erection of transmission lines in this connection, an expenditure of Rs. 12.50 lakhs was incurred under the Second Five-Year Plan.

Another proposal under the Second Five-Year Plan was to instal diesel generating sets and accordingly, one unit of 66 K.W. was installed at Gonikoppal.

In the Third Five-Year Plan, it was proposed to take up the Barapole Hydel Project * and a financial outlay of Rs. 20 lakhs was also made for the purpose. Due to financial difficulties and the high priority of other hydel projects in the State, it is now felt that the Barapole hydel project may be taken up in a subsequent plan. Any development of industries is closely related to the availability of power and Coorg district can hope to have more industrial concerns with the materialisation of this hydel project.

A financial outlay of Rs. 15.50 lakhs has been provided in the Third Five-Year Plan for the programmes of the State Electricity Board in the district. It is proposed to construct transmission lines of 117 miles (Kushalnagar to Mercara—20 miles and Mercara to other towns—97 miles) at a cost of Rs. 7.00 lakhs. It is also proposed to electrify 12 villages that are in the vicinity of the transmission lines at a cost of Rs. 5.00 lakhs. Besides, it is proposed to construct three step-down stations at Virajpet, Suntikoppa and Kushalnagar at a cost of Rs. 3.50 lakhs.

These works are in different stages of progress. Transmission lines between Suntikoppa and Virajpet and from Suntikoppa to Somwarpet are being laid. As regards the construction of sub-stations at Suntikoppa and Virajpet, the work will be taken up soon. The existing 66 KV/11 Kv. sub-station at Kushalnagar will be replaced by a 66 KV/33 KV sub-station.

Government Press, Mercara

The old Coorg Government had a full-fledged press of its own at Mercara. Under the retrenchment proposals made in 1929, the Government Press at Mercara was amalgamated with the Residency Press at Bangalore and all the equipment and the staff were transferred to Bangalore. Thereafter, all printing works pertaining to Coorg, including the printing of forms, were being done at the Residency Press. After the retrocession of the Civil and Military Station, Bangalore, to Mysore State in 1948, the Government Press at the Residency became part of the Mysore State Government Press. The printing work relating to Coorg was arranged to be done at the Government Branch Press at Mysore. This arrangement did not work satisfactorily, as the combined work was too much for the Mysore (Government) Press to cope with.

* Please also see the chapter on "Economic Trends" where more details are given.

In 1952, ways and means of getting over this difficulty were examined and, with the approval of the Government of India, the then Coorg Government decided to re-open the Government Press at Mercara in the same building where it had been located before its transfer in 1922. Necessary machinery, types and other equipments were purchased. The press at Mercara started functioning with effect from 1st April 1954. Due to several development programmes of the Government, the work in the press increased rapidly and staff and other equipment were added proportionately from time to time and now (1964) it is functioning well with twenty-six employees.

Government Central Workshop, Mercara

With a view to centralising the repairs and servicing of Government vehicles and to maintaining other mechanical equipments owned by Government in an efficient condition, the Government Central Workshop was established at Mercara by the Coorg Government in 1954 under the First Five-Year Plan.

The workshop has the following sections :—

(1) Machine Shop.
(2) Automobile Section.
 (*a*) Repairs Department.
 (*b*) Servicing Department.
 (*c*) Painting Department.
 (*d*) Body-Building Department.

(3) Smithy Section.

The machine shop is equipped with precision machinery and is practically self-contained. Almost all the job works from the other sections are attended to without recourse to outside agency. Old parts are reconditioned wherever possible.

The automobile section, divided into four departments, has been efficiently handling the job of major repairs of motor vehicles. The smithy section is a feeder department to other departments.

This workshop is located in the Mahatma Gandhi Road at Mercara. The annual estimate of the work done by this unit was Rs. 0.61 lakh, Rs. 0.77 lakh, Rs. 1.27 lakhs, Rs. 1.57 lakhs and Rs. 1.52 lakhs during 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59, 1959-60 and 1960-61, respectively. The following figures indicate the general working of the concern during the years 1960-61 to 1962-63.

	1960–61	1961–62	1962–63
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Government Capital ..	3,96,263	3,88,435	4,80,099

	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
2. Sales service charges ..	1,52,498	1,40,607	1,50,904
3. Gross profit or loss ..	+38,799	+39,772	—8,146
4. Net profit/or loss ..	—1,032	—8,607	—63,807
5. Percentage of net profit/loss to sales and service charges.	—0.68	—6.12	—42.48

There were about 30 persons working in this work-shop in 1962-63.

Candidates were formerly being trained here in blacksmithy. The trainees were given every opportunity to learn work with a view to enabling them to pursue it as a profession by establishing themselves in villages. Now, candidates are only entertained as apprentices for practical courses as required by some of the technical institutions before awarding diplomas. The activities of the workshop are not confined only to repairs and maintenance of vehicles or other equipments. It also undertakes the erection of machinery and pumps.

Under the Third Five-Year Plan, a scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.54 lakhs to instal a wood-sawing unit as an adjunct to the workshop was included. The saw mill machinery was installed during 1962-63 and put to use. The manufacture of packing cases was taken up at the Central Workshop in the same year. It is proposed to manufacture toys as a by-product out of the waste materials at the Central Workshop. Added to these, a scheme for the installation of wood-screwing equipment is under the consideration of Government. It is also proposed to manufacture small hand tools and agricultural implements in this workshop.

Saw Mills

Though Coorg is well-known for its timber wealth, it is strange that the saw mill industry has not made much headway in the district. Of course, there are about 450 individual persons who are engaged by the forest contractors to saw the logs but, mainly, the wood is sent for sawing to Hunsur in Mysore district where there are a number of private saw mills. The mill side of the industry in the private sector in Coorg as such has not developed at all. The only private saw mill in Coorg is the Appachu Saw Mill at Mercara which has fifteen employees. It is evident, therefore, that there is a lack of private initiative to develop this industry.

Government Saw Mill, Murkal

An important industrial enterprise in the district is the Government Saw Mill at Murkal which was installed by the Government of Coorg in September 1954 under the First Five-Year Plan. The main purpose of this saw mill is to convert the poor quality timber-felling coupes so as to minimise the wastage in exploitation. Within a distance of about 10 to 15 miles from Murkal, that is, in Nagarhole and Kalhalla ranges, about 680 acres of natural forests are being cleared annually for the purpose of raising teak plantations. From these annual felling areas, timber is being extracted and transported to the Government Depot at Hunsur for sale. During the process of this exploitation, a considerable quantity of timber will have to be left in the jungle owing to various defects such as hollowness, splits and cracks. It does not pay to transport such defective logs all the way to Hunsur over a distance of about 25 to 30 miles, for sale. All such logs of poor quality are now sent to the saw mill for converting them to sawn timber. Since the installation of the saw mill, utilisation of timber from the forests has been intensive and large quantities of timber which would otherwise have been left in the jungle to be burnt are now being usefully utilised.

To the saw mill at Murkal are also attached seasoning units which meet the demand of seasoned wood for furniture and to some extent the demands of the public. This saw mill supplies doors and windows to the Housing Board. It supplies sawn timber to various Government departments such as Public Works and Irrigation, the Indian Railways and to industrial concerns like the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., Bharat Electronics and the Indian Telephone Industries. Besides, the sawn timber of the mill is also sold in the sales depot at Hunsur at periodical auctions.

On an average, timber of about 450 cubic feet is sawn daily. The total value of sawn timber between October 1954 and March 1955 was Rs. 35,900 while the value of sawn timber between March 1955 and March 1956 was Rs. 80,776. The value of timber sawn from 1956-57 to 1962-63 is given below.

Year	*Value of timber sawn*
	Rs.
1956-57	97,624
1957-58	79,769
1958-59	79,570
1959-60	66,808
1960-61	82,085

Year	Value of timber sawn
	Rs.
1961-62 ..	1,28,387
1962-63	2,46,357

In 1955, it was decided to start the manufacture of furniture as well at Murkal and, accordingly, a unit was set up. In this unit, various kinds of labour-saving machines have been installed, such as moulding machines, planing machines, belt sanders, jig saws and table re-saws. Since undertaking the manufacture of furniture at Murkal, it has been possible to utilise even small-sized pieces and offcuts of timber for preparing various kinds of useful articles, so that wastage in sawing of timber has been reduced to the minimum.

About 50 employees are engaged daily in the saw mill and the furniture factory, in addition to about 50 carpenters engaged on job works in the preparation of various kinds of furniture. Large indents for furniture from the various schools as well as from other various Government offices have also been met. The work in the furniture section consists in making tables, chairs, almirahs, benches, desks, hat-racks, map-racks, stools, file trays, file racks, screens, box-hives and other domestic furniture.

Under the Second Five-Year Plan, the question of installing a timber-seasoning kiln at a cost of Rs. 1.26 lakhs was taken up and this was established in 1959. A seasoning kiln is a steam-heated chamber where sawn timber is kept for a specified period in order to bring down the moisture content of the timber. Unseasoned or 'green' timber is liable to warp, crack and develop other defects, so that if such timber is used for preparing furniture, the finished article will develop various defects. With the installation of a seasoning kiln at the Murkal saw mill, it was possible to use properly seasoned timber for the manufacture of better class of furniture at the factory and also to meet the demand for seasoned timber from the public.

Portable saw units are also expected to be introduced in the forests of Coorg in the near future.

Rice Mills

Coorg is a rich rice-producing area with 1,12,541 acres (1962-63) of land under paddy cultivation; the production of rice in 1962-63 was 40,000 tons and it is no wonder that the rice mill industry has developed to a great extent in the district. In fact, the industry is the most widespread of all small industries in Coorg. There were in 1956, 13 smaller type of mills and about half a dozen huller type rice mills in the district. In

April 1964, there were 16 sheller type of mills, 42 hullers and there were also 13 sheller-*cum*-huller mills. The taluk-wise break-up of these mills is indicated below :—

Name of Taluk		No. of shellers	No. of hullers	No. of shellers-cum-hullers	Total
1. Mercara	..	3	3	6	12
2. Somwarpet	..	6	15	4	25
3. Virajpet	..	7	24	3	34
Total	..	16	42	13	71

These rice mills which are scattered in the district are heavily concentrated at Gonikoppal, the other centres being Ponnampet, Virajpet, Mercara, Ammathi and Kakur.

The estimated productive capital employed in all these mills is about Rs. 20 lakhs. The bulk of the productive capital consists of fixed capital assets such as land, buildings, plant and machinery and lorries. The plant and machinery consist of a paddy hulling plant (rice mill), oil engines or steam engines for generating power and paddy boilers ; and in a couple of cases, flour mills are also to be found. Steam boilers for production of boiled rice have been installed in about 15 mills.

The total number of workers employed by these mills varies between 300 to 400 during the slack season, while in the peak season the employment figure goes up to 600.

The important activity of these mills consists in hulling of paddy both on their own account as well as on behalf of private parties. Some of the mills, besides undertaking hulling either on their own behalf or on behalf of others or for both, also purchase a good quantity of paddy and sell it without hulling. Except a couple of mills which have not installed steam boilers for boiling paddy and therefore are producing raw rice only, all the other mills have erected steam boilers and are producing both boiled and raw rice.

The total quantity of paddy hulled by these mills every year (estimated) is about 80,000 tons ; in other words, about 40,000 tons of rice.

The principal market for boiled rice produced in Coorg is Malabar. A considerable quantity of boiled rice is consumed within Coorg itself. The important market for raw rice, however, is Coorg itself while a small quantity flows to Malabar and Mysore also.

It is the policy of the Government of India to promote hand-pounding of rice in order to retain its nutritional value. The Karve Committee, in its recommendations on the place of small-scale and village industries in the Second Plan, proposed a ban on expansion of factory capacity in rice hulling industry and imposition of an excise duty at an appropriate rate on all sheller and sheller-huller mills (the proceeds of which are to be utilised for promoting hand-pounding of rice). The Government of India accepted the recommendations of the Committee. With all these, it is a fact to be reckoned with that the rice mill industry is the only small industry in Coorg which has developed well and that the rice mills there do not groan under difficulties that are common to the small-scale industries elsewhere. The only requirement for most of the mills seems to be a "drier" or an artificial drying machine. This machine enables drying of paddy after boiling and will be very useful during monsoons when natural drying is not possible.

A reference in regard to the hand-pounding of rice industry may also be made here. Commensurate with the all-India policy of encouraging hand-pounding of rice, the Government of Coorg, before the reorganisation of States, drew up a scheme for the development of hand-pounding of rice. An amount of Rs. 25,000 was spent under the Second Five-Year Plan for implementing this scheme. Under the Third Five-Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 4.10 lakhs has been set apart for the development of rural industries including hand-pounding of rice. The industry exists in Coorg mostly in the rural areas, while in the urban areas the industry is facing extinction owing to the existence of rice mills. Even in rural areas where hand-pounded rice is still used, the industry is quite antique and unorganised. Under the successive plans, it is expected that this industry will be reorganised and put on modern lines both in the rural and urban areas.

Minor Engineering

There are four small engineering works at Mercara (1964), besides the two units manufacturing agricultural implements, one at Somwarpet and another at Kudige. The engineering works at Mercara are manufacturing spraying machines required for coffee plantations and bee-keeping appliances. The units are engaged in the production of spray machines and pumps required for coffee plantations, as also the spare parts for the spray machines. The units are also experimenting in making new types of sprayers required for the plantations. Another line of activity of these units is the manufacture of bee appliances like honey-extractors, bee-smokers, uncapping knives, bee-escapes, wax [illegible], wire-embedders and bottle-feeders.

Bee-keeping

Honey holds an important place in the life of the Hindu as one of the "five nectars". Its medicinal and nutritive value has been long recognised. Systematic bee-keeping was introduced in South India by a Christian missionary some three decades ago. At present, intensive bee-keeping is confined to the States of Kerala, Mysore, Madras, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Kashmir and West Bengal. In Mysore State, Coorg is known for this industry. The bounty of nature has made bee-keeping the most important cottage industry in the district. Indeed, it seems as though nature has specially selected Coorg for bee-keeping by endowing it with variegated types of flora.

The people of Coorg have practised bee-keeping in their homes from times immemorial. All the varieties of honey-bees are found in Coorg, of which the "Apis Indica" variety is by far the most important, being amenable to domestication. In the old days, earthen pot hives and hollowed logs were being employed to keep the bees, and collect the honey. Even today, earthen pot hives are not uncommon in Coorg. But in this method of collecting honey, there is a great disadvantage, namely, a number of bees including the queen bees get destroyed in the process of plucking the combs and sqeezing the honey. The combs cannot be used again. The modern method is to employ wooden box hives in which bees are kept. This method enables extraction of honey without destroying either the bees or the combs and the honey extracted out of these hives is pure in so far as it is untouched by human hands during the process of extraction; it has also a pleasant aroma, attractive colour and a delicious taste.

Bee flora of Coorg.

The district is especially suitable for systematic studies of the honey-bee and the different species of flowers that it visits. The district has a wealth of flowers which bloom in profusion in all the months of the year and which are a rich source of honey. The Government has established several centres in the district where work is being done on bee-culture. The Government, during 1961-62, did a systematic study of the flowers which promise to be good honey-yielders. A survey of the bee-flora in the district was also undertaken by the Department of Botany, Government College, Mercara, with the collaboration of the Department of Agriculture. This survey included detailed field observations and collection of data regarding bee-visits. The work entailed correct identification of plants, with short description of floral structure wherever necessary. The field-staff of the Apicultural Section of the Agricultural Department have made certain observations regarding the bee-flora and its flowering calendar. A list of plants with their scientific and Kannada names according to their flowering calendar during the year is appended to this chapter. The plants mentioned here are only a few of the many honey-yielding flowers that are found in the district.

The Honey Bees.

The honey bees along with the bees that do not store honey come under the family 'Apidae'. These, along with the wasps and ants, are classified together under the order *Hymenoptera* (*hymen* means membrane and *ptera* means wings). The insects which compose this vast order consist of both social and non-social forms. Social insects are those which live in colonies and the non-social are those which lead a solitary life. Amongst the former, there are various grades and the honey-bee comes at the very top showing the most perfect organization.

There are various types of honey bees (to be more precise, there are a number of species). They are, (1) the common cottage hive bee cultured in boxes and pots (*Apis indica*), (2) the rock bee (*Apis dorsata*) and (3) the smaller variety of bee usually found on shrubs (*Apis florea*). Amongst the honey bees (*Apis Indica*), we find a subtle variation in colour which divides them into two varieties. In one, the body is deep shining black with yellow hairs (*Apis indica var unicolor*) and in the other, yellow is more conspicuous (*Apis indica var nigrocineta*). The latter is the common form found in Burma. The bees domesticated in the western countries are slightly different from those cultured in India. In addition to these, there is another variety of honey bees commonly found in crevices of old buildings and hollows of ancient trees. These are very minute attaining a size of only three to four mm. They do not build honey combs. They store honey in small pouches resembling bunches of ripe grapes. They are popularly called mulijenu (*Mellipona*).

Let us describe the domestic honey bee found universally in the cottages of the Malnad region in general and Coorg in particular. These honey bees, as mentioned before, live in unique societies, where, in addition to the division of labour, we also find variation in structure. These variations are not just exotic but are part and parcel of the social life they lead. According to these variations, we find three different types of individuals in the same colony. They are (1) the queen, (2) the workers and (3) the drones. The drones are the males of the colony. In large numbers they are a menace to the colony, but the entire absence of the same is also harmful, since they are the prime requisites for fertilising the queen bees. The drones are, in fact, fatherless as they are born by the process of *Parthenogenesis*. A virgin queen or a worker bee can produce drones by this natural process.

The queen is of paramount importance. She is the mother of all bees. Her death or disablement during the period when the male element is absent means the extinction of the whole colony. During the summer season, however, when drones are abundant, the loss of the queen is not comparatively great as the workers can transform eggs, which in ordinary course produce

worker bees, into fully developed queens. This wonderful provision of nature is made use of by the bee-keeper of to-day to increase the colonies and to replace the old and worn-out queen bees.

Finally, we have the aptly named worker bee, which does the chores of the colony. These are neuters or partially developed females, which, though capable of laying eggs, do not normally lay eggs. Furthermore, the eggs, if laid, can only produce drones. Yet, the worker bee forms an item in a commonwealth, the members of which are in all respects equally well-endowed. They are in turn skilled scientists, architects, builders, artisans, labourers and even scavengers. But collectively, they are the rulers on whom the colony depends for the wonderful conditions of law and order, which has made the bee community a model of good government. As for the longevity of worker bees, in the height of summer, the little creatures are able to survive only for a period of six to seven weeks. On the other hand, worker bees hatched in the autumn *i.e.*, after the major honey flow is over, do not have any hard work to do and so they live up to six or seven months. The life span of worker bees born just before the start of major honey flow is generally very short as they die of hard work and exhaustion.

The culture of bees has become an art and a full-time job in countries like America, Australia, U.S.S.R. and Europe. In these countries, it is not a rare sight to see bee-keepers possessing from a thousand to ten thousand hives. But in our own country, and particularly in the Malnad, bee-keeping, though common, has not attained these dimensions. This is probably due to general ignorance rather than lack of enthusiasm.

But, of late, the Government is taking active interest in apiculture. Technical staff to guide the villagers and to provide them with the required bee hive boxes and technical know-how together with the scientific equipments to handle bees and to extract honey have been appointed. Unless the people at large take interest, any amount of Government help does not improve conditions.

Method of Bee-keeping.

Honey bees belong to one of the three important classes of beneficial insects which yield products useful to man, the other two being silk worms and lac insects. Bee-keeping is a home industry which can be carried on by all people. It requires very little labour and no extra space, and can be carried on with a small capital outlay as a subsidiary industry or as a hobby. The appliances required are few and inexpensive. A hive, a honey extractor and a few cultural tools are the only important requisities. A bee hive can be locally made at a cost of about five to ten rupees. The honey extractor costs about 15 to 30 rupees. But it is not necessary that every person who keeps a bee-hive need have an extractor,

as honey is extracted from the hive at intervals and not daily. A group of persons can have one extractor or if they are members of a co-operative society, the society can have an extractor or two for the common use of all its members. The hive can be kept on the verandah or near the windows of the house. All that one has to do is to see that the hive is free from ants, wax moth, and caterpillar, and that it is protected against the enemies of bees, *viz.*, the lizard, hornets, the bee-eater and the king crow. The industry does not require great skill and the training required is not of a complicated or taxing nature. A working knowledge of bee-keeping can be gained in a month. After gaining some experience, a person can manage a number of hives. There is no necessity to cultivate specially any pasturage or plants for bees, as the bees make use of the available pasturage and plants in existence. The flowers of most crops, plants and trees have pollen and nectar to give.

Bees gather honey and store in their combs for their food in the winter months, when they cannot fly out and forage. There will not be much honey-bearing flowers in the fields and gardens during the cold months either, except in the case of plants such as the antigonon creeper and the like which blossom all the year round. If from a domesticated colony of bees, the first store is removed, the bees will start storing again and will do so every time their store is lost, provided, of course, such losses occur within the honey flow season and there is sufficient time for them to collect finally. There is flow of honey (both major and minor honey flows) for nearly 8½ months from about the middle of October to the end of June though the months from about the middle of March to the end of June are usually the periods of the major honey flow. Apart from yielding honey and wax, bee-keeping is beneficial to farmers, as it helps better production of crops, for bees aid pollination. The industry can, therefore, be combined with fruit-growing, flower-gardening and with agriculture, generally. It looks as though the bees produce honey and wax and increase agricultural production for the sake of man.

While the industry does not make a heavy call on the bee-keeper's time and involves only a little labour and capital, the income derived from the industry is greater than the income from several other cottage industries. Under very favourable conditions of pasturage, a hive can yield up to a maximum of 100 lbs. of honey per annum. But after allowing sufficient margin of stock for the bees themselves to live upon and other handicaps, a hive can be safely estimated to yield not less than 15 lbs. of honey per year in the malnad area. Wax to the value of fifty paise can also be obtained from a hive in a year. It is easy for a person to manage six to twelve hives as a subsidiary avocation.

The development of bee-keeping in Coorg.—The modern method of bee-keeping was first introduced in Coorg in 1930 through non-official agencies. The Government of Coorg began taking interest in the bee-keeping industry from the year 1936. In the same year, with a view to improve this industry and to bring the producers under an organisation, "The Coorg Honey and Wax Producers' Co-operative Society Ltd.," was formed at Virajpet.

Central Apiary, Bhagamandala.

In the year 1948, under the postwar reconstruction programme, a five-year scheme known as "The Central Apiary Scheme" was launched by the Government and the Government Central Apiary at Bhagamandala was established with the object of handling all the problems that confront the bee-keeping industry as well as to encourage bee culture as a home industry. However, the scheme was abruptly terminated and all experimental and developmental work was suspended until 1952 when the new popular Government took up the reins of administration.

The new Government recognised the importance and potentialities of this industry and immediately took steps to revive the activities of the Central Apiary. A provision of rupees one lakh was also made for the development of apiculture in the First Five-Year Plan of Coorg. The programme under the plan included the revival of the Central Apiary at Bhagamandala, distribution of bee-hive boxes to bee-keepers at subsidised rates and opening of apiary sub-stations in the different honey centres of the district. Up to the end of February 1956, a sum of Rs. 98,900 was spent on the development of apiculture under the First Five-Year Plan. Under the Second Five-Year Plan, the Government had an ambitious programme. The importance attached to this industry may be indicated by the fact that out of a total provision of Rs. 18.95 lakhs for the development of village and small-scale industries, a sum of Rs. 9,11,200 (*i.e.*, 50 per cent of the total provision) was earmarked for the development of apiculture alone. About 25,000 out of about 47,000 earthen pot hives were replaced by the modern box hives at the rate of 5,000 boxes every year. The Apicultural Museum and Bee-Library section of the Central Apiary, Bhagamandala, which was opened under the First Plan were enriched. The programme of training in modern bee-keeping methods was intensified to enable more and more bee-keepers to obtain the advantage of training. Under the Third Five-Year Plan, a provision of Rs. 0.10 lakh was made for the development of apiculture in the district. It was proposed to supply bee appliances at subsidised rates, give grant-in-aid to societies and train candidates in the industry. These are now being implemented. Besides, the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board has been giving assistance for the development of bee-keeping.

Sub-stations.

Sub-stations may be classified into two : those controlled by the Government and those controlled by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. These sub-stations are scattered all over the Coorg district and the following tables contain the places of sub-stations, as also their details during 1963-64.

Apiary Stations during 1963-64 in Coorg District under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission :—(South Coorg).

Sl. No.	*Name of the Apiary Station*	*Total No. of Bee Colonies*	*Total Apiary honey production (kg.)*	*Number of Bee-keepers*	*Number of villages covered*
1.	Napoklu ..	396	1,321	142	5
2.	Nelaji ..	1,058	3,460	310	4
3.	Paranc ..	363	1,865	115	8
4.	Bittangala ..	531	3,761	209	7
5.	Gonikoppal ..	383	753	186	8
6.	Nemmale ..	565	2,669	232	6
	Total ..	3,296	13,829	1,194	38

Apiary Stations maintained by the Coorg Honey and Wax Producers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Virajpet, under grants from the Khadi and Village Industries Commission routed through the Mysore State Khadi and Village Industries Board :—(South Coorg).

Sl. No.	*Name of the Sub-Station*	*Total No. of colonies*	*Total Apiary honey production (kg.)*	*Number of Bee-keepers*	*Number of villages covered*
1.	Kadanga ..	342	896	99	5
2.	Hysodloor ..	642	1,815	271	7
3.	Badagonkeri ..	703	2,624	188	2
4.	Perur ..	473	1,282	220	3
5.	Arji ..	345	1,365	63	4
6.	Pulicotte ..	474	2,599	105	2
7.	Naniandada ..	502	1,281	150	2
8.	Ammathi ..	313	154	125	10
	Total ..	3,794	12,016	1,221	35

Apiary Sub-Stations maintained by the Coorg Progressive Bee-Keepers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Bhagamandala, under grants from the Khadi and Village Industries Commission routed through the Mysore State Khadi and Village Industries Board :—

(North Coorg)

Sl. No.	Name of the Sub-Station		Total No. of colonies	Total Apiary honey production (kg.)	Number of Bee-keepers	Number of villages covered
1.	Kibbetta	..	310	1,574	89	7
2.	Bettadakoppa	..	490	4,862	385	7
3.	Kuthi	..	570	2,615	126	9
4.	Bachalli	..	548	3,146	160	9
5.	Nanjarajpatna	..	319	380	124	4
6.	Hebbatgeri	..	323	2,646	101	4
7.	Bettatheri	..	391	4,137	313	4
8.	Biligeri	..	78	158	67	1
9.	Bengoor	..	665	2,073	334	4
10.	Madapurhatti	..	395	807	139	3
11.	Kundacheri	..	212	1,905	37	2
12.	Suntikoppa	..	123	220	19	2
	Total	..	4,424	24,523	1,894	56

Apiary Stations during 1963-64 in Coorg District under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission :—

(North Coorg)

Sl. No.	Name of the Apiary Station		Total No. of Bee Colonies	Total Apiary honey production (kg.)	Number of Bee-keepers	Number of villages covered
1.	Gejjankodu	..	416	3,901	175	11
2.	Garvale	..	660	3,127	89	7
3.	Bettakeri	..	428	2,643	162	8
4.	Murnad	..	449	482	182	10
5.	Bhagamandala	..	619	8,376	125	4
	Total	..	2,572	18,529	753	40

Government Sub-Centres (April 1964).

Sl. No. and Name		Number of colonies at the end of the month	Apiary honey Production from 1-4-63 to 31-3-64 (kg.)	Number of beekeepers	No. of villages
1	Nagarhole	73	32.000	102	12
2	Begoor	152	424.500	97	18
3	Srimangala	1,105	4,449.000	166	9
4	Tithimathi	631	1,364.000	179	13
5	Ponnampet	719	505.000	340	14
6	Birunani	1,210	1,979.700	400	2
7	B. Shettigeri	984	1,670.000	451	4
8	Pollibetta	241	368.000	122	8
9	Virajpet	582	2,315.520	265	11
10	Kakkabe	382	1,108.000	118	2
11	Bhagamandala	764	2,789.764	267	4
12	Mercara T. C.	506	1,070.000	263	2
13	Mercara V. C.	664	397.000	128	6
14	Galibedu	848	4,687.000	162	4
15	Chettalli	597	189.000	166	8
16	Madapur	1,349	3,431.000	345	9
17	Somwarpet	680	3,322.000	361	17
18	Sanivarasanthe	375	314.000	141	9
19	Shanthalli	973	13,647.000	303	6
20	Jakkanalli	801	10,885.000	175	6
21	Kudige	187	94.000	163	9
	Total ..	13,823	55,041.484	4714	173

Besides the above, there are, in all, 25 Apis clubs functioning in Senior Basic Schools and High Schools and 19 Commercial Apiaries and 20 Plantation Apiaries in coffee and cardamom estates falling in the honey belt of the Coorg district. There was a production of 6,670 kg. of apiary honey in these units during 1963-64. This is over and above the honey production shown in the above tables.

Private Agencies.

It is estimated that the total number of private bee-keepers in Coorg is about 16,000. About 50 per cent of the bee-keepers are still employing earthen pot hives while the remaining have adopted the modern box hives. The production from these hives is estimated at about two lakh lbs. every year. In the year 1955-56, a total quantity of 2,38,101 lbs. of honey valued at Rs. 1,55,990 was estimated to have been produced and the total quantity of wax produced during the same period amounted to

about 3,790 lbs. valued approximately at Rs. 8,500 (These figures are based on the estimate made by the Industrial Survey of Coorg conducted by the Small Industries Service Institute in [illegible]). The total apiary honey production in Coorg in 1963-64 was 3,[illegible]2,736 lbs. of which about 1,13,000 lbs. were estimated to have been consumed locally and the remaining quantity was marketed outside. It is estimated that about 3,00,000 lbs. of apiary honey are produced annually under modern methods of box hives and about a lakh and a half pounds under the indigenous method of earthen pot hives and hollowed tree trunks.

Bee-Keepers' Co-operative Societies.

The bee-keepers of Coorg have formed two co-operative societies, namely, the Coorg Honey and Wax Producers' Co-operative Society Ltd., Virajpet (1936) and the Coorg Progressive Bee-Keepers' Co-operative Society Ltd., Bhagamandala (1954). The latter society started functioning as an agent of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. There was prolonged dispute between these two societies as regards their jurisdiction. The co-ordination meeting held in 1962 at Bhagamandala has settled this dispute and the district was divided into two zones taking the river Cauvery as a natural demarcating line. Thus, the territorial jurisdiction of north Coorg was assigned to Bhagamandala society and that of south Coorg was assigned to the society at Virajpet for both development and marketing.

Regional Bee Research and Training Institute, Mercara.

The Regional Bee Research and Training Institute was started at Mercara on 15th December 1963. Established by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, this centre is intended to serve the needs of Mysore, and parts of Andhra and Kerala States. The main reason for locating this research centre in Coorg was the importance of Coorg in the honey-production map of India. It is ascertained that out of the total production of honey in the country, 60 per cent is produced in Mysore State (thus Mysore stands first among the States producing honey), and out of this, 60 per cent is produced in Coorg district alone. Though the total production is large, the average production of honey per hive varies between 10 to 15 pounds, which is very small compared to the average production in western countries*. Thus, research in bee-keeping has become necessary and this centre has been trying to find out methods of bee-rearing and manipulative practices suitable for this region to increase production per hive. In order to enable this Regional Laboratory to conduct researches and to collect important statistics, there is a proposal to start ten observation centres under this laboratory.

Training in Bee-keeping.

In [illegible], arrangements were made at the Central Apiary at Bhagamandala for training of bee-keepers in the art of modern

*For example, in the United States, the average production per hive is estimated at [illegible] pounds.

bee-keeping. The training programme includes both theoretical and practical aspects of bee-keeping. Here, training which lasted for two months was being given for about 120 candidates in three batches of 40 each every year till December 1963. The candidates were paid a stipend of Rs. 30 per month. The Government Central Apiary trained 867 candidates (780 men and 87 lady candidates) in all upto 1963-64 official year. When the Regional Bee Research and Training Centre was established at Mercara in December 1963, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission took over the teaching section of the Government Central Apiary, Bhagamandala, including the hostel facilities for men and women. The research and teaching staff of the Government department also went under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission on deputation for a period of five years in the first instance.

This Regional Training Section has now been considered as an adjunct to the Regional Bee Research Centre at Mercara. A batch of Bee Inspectors working in various districts of Mysore State were admitted to this training centre at Bhagamandala on 4th November 1963 and were relieved on 7th February 1964 after the completion of their training. This refresher training course lasts for three months for Inspectors and Junior Fieldmen. There was a proposal to give three months' training for all Government bee-men during 1964-65. In addition to these, it is proposed to give training for three months for fieldmen, when fieldmen are required for work. It is also proposed to give two months' training for bee-keepers and other interested village-folk in order to enable them to take up bee-keeping on a large scale.

The Central Apiary at Bhagamandala has been fully equipped with all modern appliances. An Apicultural Museum, a Bee Library, a honey-processing unit, a wax filter, a wax sheeting unit and a comb foundation mill are attached to the Central Apiary for purposes of training as well as to cater for the needs of the bee-keepers.

Sericulture

The sericulture industry is of quite recent origin in the district and the idea of introducing this industry was thought of only in the later stages of the First Five-Year Plan. The economic condition of agriculturists of the north-eastern parts of Somwarpet taluk is poor and depends on the success or failure of the ragi and horsegram crops. Irrigational facilities are not available and crops like tobacco and cotton to develop industries are not existing. The only alternative to improve the economic standard, it was felt, was through the development of cottage industries like sericulture. A survey of the area had been carried out in 19[illegible] and it was decided by the Coorg Government to develop sericulture in selected villages. Steps were taken to introduce the industry in 1955 by starting an experimental farm at Kudige with five acres of mulberry plantation. Preliminary experiments on

the rearing of cross-breed silk worms gave encouraging results. Intensive survey and propaganda work resulted in large-scalé plantation in nearby villages in Kushalnagar Hobli in Somwarpet taluk. Later, under the Second Five-Year Plan, the farm at Kudige was expanded into a bigger demonstration farm with 15 acres of mulberry garden. Intensive training to the agriculturists was imparted in the twin operations of mulberry cultivation and silk-worm rearing and the agriculturists were taught how dependable financial benefits could be derived if they practised sericulture. Under the Second Plan, with the setting-up of a composite sericultural farm at Kudige consisting of mulberry plantation, nursery, rearing of silk worms and grainage, the district of Coorg began to see a ray of hope as regards sericultural development. Adequate incentives to the intending growers of mulberry in the shape of subsidy and loans have been given by Government. An amount of Rs. 2.30 lakhs was spent under the Second Five-Year Plan for carrying out the various developmental schemes under sericulture in the district. An amount of Rs. 3.965 lakhs has been kept apart under the Third Five-Year Plan to develop sericulture in the district. The area planted with mulberry (which is the mainstay of the silk industry) in the different village centres by the private agriculturists, through the financial help given by the State Government at the rate of Rs. 100 per acre, during 1960-61, was 120 acres and the number of parties was 80. The results obtained in the rearing of cross-breed silk-worms have been satisfactory and the sericulturists in the district have been realising good returns. During 1961-62, 9,628 lbs. of cross-breed reeling cocoons and 10.89 lakhs of foreign race seed cocoons were produced and the approximate total amount realised by the families who have taken up sericulture as a subsidiary occupation was about Rs. 25,000 which worked out to Rs. 300 per family. This extra income has helped the people to live a better life.

Handlooms

The handloom weaving industry may be considered to be a new industry in Coorg for the reason that it had almost died out and was revived only after 1952. The industry is concentrated in two centres, namely, Sanivarasanthe and Sirangala. Sanivarasanthe is the most important centre of handloom production in Coorg and Sirangala is the next important centre. There were 127 handlooms in April 1964 engaged in the weaving of cotton fabrics with about 200 workers in the district. The weavers of Sanivarasanthe and Sirangala were using the traditional device of weaving, namely, the pit-loom, and the production was on a limited scale owing to various difficulties such as want of working capital, occasional scarcity of yarn, non-availability of higher counts of yarn and dyes and want of bleaching, warping and calendering facilities. As a result, the weavers were underemployed for a major period in the day, the average production per loom being less than two yards per day. The principal varieties of

handloom cloth produced by the weavers of these centres are lungies, shirtings, suitings, towels and dhoties, while Siranagala is famous for producing the police and forest "pagrees" (turbans) in which it has specialised. It was said earlier that there were 127 handlooms in April 1964 in the district. Of these, 68 handlooms had been brought into the co-operative fold at the end of the year 1963-64.

Pottery

The pottery industry which is essentially of cottage nature in Coorg exists mainly in Madikebeedu, Thorenur, Hebbale, Siranagala, Sanivarasanthe, Siddapur and Napoklu. Madikebeedu in Ponnampet Nad is the most important and also typical of the other centres. An account of the status of the industry at Madikebeedu will more or less speak of the status of the industry as a whole in Coorg.

Madikebeedu is a small village about 35 miles south of Mercara. As the name itself indicates, it is a well-known centre in Coorg for pottery. There are 50 families in this small village which are engaged in the manufacture of pots and other earthenware of domestic utility, the former being the main production. The potters of Madikebeedu are sufficiently skilled in pot-making, having derived their skill from heredity. Generally, in each family more than one member is at manufacture of the pots; the male members by turning the wheel make the pots and other articles of clay while the womenfolk of the family assist the men, in giving finishing touches to the articles.

The potters use the traditional, old model wheel—a legacy of the past—for the manufacture of pots and other earthenwares. They carry their products to nearby villages for sale and also to the weekly shandies in nearby centres. On an average, each family earns three to five rupees a week. In addition to these regular sales, each family has a few permanent customers, mostly the farmers, to whom every year they supply an agreed number of pots for which they are paid in kind during the harvest.

Pottery Centre, Madikebeedu

With a view to developing the pottery industry and to improve the economic conditions of the potters in Coorg, a pottery centre at Madikebeedu was established by the Government of India in 1955. During 1955-56, under the First Five-Year Plan, a scheme for the development of pottery in Coorg was prepared estimated to cost Rs. 24,300 and sent to the Government of India for sanction. An amount of Rs. 18,225 as a loan of 75 per cent of the total cost of the scheme was sanctioned. Under this scheme, attempts were made to put the pottery industry along modern lines. Under the Second Five-Year Plan, as against a provision of Rs. 2.00 lakhs, a sum of Rs. 0.82 lakh was spent on recurring expenditure and purchase of equipment. Apart from this, a sum of Rs. [illegible] lakh was spent towards the construction of three sheds for the centre.

The scheme of the development of pottery as planned under the Second Five-Year Plan may be split under two heads—pottery scheme and brick and tile manufacturing scheme.

Under the pottery scheme, a production-*cum*-training centre was established, equipped with all modern appliances. Technicians trained at Wardha were appointed, who in turn began to train potters in the preparation of casting body mass, handling of moulds, casting of the articles and also in the use of improved manual wheel and mechanical wheel. An improved manual wheel was installed in the pottery centre for purposes of demonstration and training. The advantages of the improved wheel over the old wheel are the following:—

(1) The volume of production in a unit hour is greater.
(2) The quality of production is better.
(3) It is safer and more convenient to operate.

The village potters having shown good response to the improved wheel and having been prepared to adopt it, the then Government of Coorg supplied to 30 families of potters at Madikebeedu improved wheels at Rs. 75 each, even though the actual price was Rs. 150 per each such wheel. Now all the potter families have these wheels.

In this pottery centre, up-to-date machines for the manufacture of pottery articles have been installed. The centre has been producing articles such as flower pots and water pots, which are being supplied to the Horticulture and other Government Departments.

Under the brick and tile manufacturing scheme, it was proposed to manufacture tiles but due to financial difficulties it was postponed. Under the Third Five-Year Plan, it is proposed now to take up the manufacture of tiles and for this purpose, two pottery technicians of this centre have already been trained in tile factories at Hassan and Mangalore for a period of five months. For the Third Plan period, a provision of Rs. 2.10 lakhs has been made for the development of this centre. The factory will act as a relief centre to the potters of Madikebeedu in as much as some of the potters will now be drawn into the factory. The factory, besides being a production centre, will impart training in advanced methods of making pottery, tiles and bricks.

At first sight, the pottery industry and the potters' economic conditions in Coorg seem to give a picture of gloom. But, a careful analysis reveals that there need be no gloom over the prospects of the pottery industry, nor any pessimism regarding the improvement of the potters' lot. The improved wheel, while relieving the monotony of work on the old wheel, is more comfortable and easy

to work; it also results in better quality products being produced in larger quantities. In addition to possessing improved wheels, the potters will have to diversify their production. Concentration upon the production of mere pots and simple clay ware of domestic utility will not carry them far; they must be able to make articles of permanent utility. Potters are now being trained at the Madikebeedu centre to produce flower pots, garden pots and fire pots. To find a remunerative market, potters should also learn to produce articles such as clay images of the Tanjore model which are greatly enjoyed by children, idols, figures of birds and animals, pickle jars, ash trays, flower-vases, coffee kettles and cups and saucers. The pottery centre is attempting to impart training in the manufacture of all these articles.

Blacksmithy

The blacksmithy industry in Coorg is very much undeveloped and extremely ill-organised. The industry, of course, has spread all over the district, each group of villages having a blacksmith to cater for their needs. The total number of blacksmithy establishments in Coorg, a district with 277 villages, is about 50 and the total number of blacksmiths in these establishments is about 150. For a majority of these blacksmiths, the profession is hereditary and they are unaware of the modern tools and techniques employed in the trade. The tools and implements they use are obsolete and the products they turn out are crude and poor in quality. They carry on production on a very small scale, turning out a few implements such as sickles and choppers mainly for agricultural purposes. Their economic condition is far from satisfactory.

It is apparent that the services of blacksmiths fail to meet the needs of the farmers. As a result, the people are compelled to depend for almost all agricultural implements upon neighbouring districts. For any petty work, they have to go in search of blacksmiths in towns, thus involving waste of time and money. The popular Government of Coorg took measures to solve this problem. As a relief measure, they began granting small sums of money as loans to individual blacksmiths. Between the years 1953 and 1956, the Government granted about Rs. 4,000 to twenty-one blacksmiths for the purchase of tools and other equipments as also to enlarge production. But the most important of all the measures was the development of the blacksmithy scheme drawn up by the Government. The cost of the scheme was estimated at Rs. 34,300. A smithy workshop was established in Kudige in 1954-55 with the intention to serve as a training centre to train the village blacksmiths in the use of improved tools and implements and in modern techniques of blacksmithy so that after their training they may engage themselves in their villages in the production of a wide variety of agricultural implements of good quality which will serve the villagers well and raise their (blacksmiths') own earnings. Under the First

and Second Five-Year Plans, loans were given to blacksmiths out of block funds. An amount of Rs. 500 was given as loans to blacksmiths in 1962 by the Mysore State Co-operative Rural Industrial Financing Bank. A sum of Rs. 4.10 lakhs has been provided under the Third Five-Year Plan for schemes of development of small-scale industries and in this, the blacksmithy industry will have its share. With the establishment of industrial estates, this industry is expected to be developed on modern lines.

Other Small Industries.

Among the other small industries may be mentioned the following: There are fourteen automobile repair works in Coorg of which six are at Mercara, three at Virajpet, two each at Gonikoppal and Siddapur and one at Somwarpet. There are fifteen units manufacturing copper and brass utensils. Five of these are situated at Mercara, two each at Virajpet, Gonikoppal and Ponnampet, three at Somwarpet and one at Kushalnagar. Recently, two units, one producing house-hold stainless steel utensils and another preparing plastic bags have also been started at Mercara.

Plantation Industries-Rubber

The district of Coorg has an area of 3,306 acres under rubber plantations. As regards output, it is estimated that Coorg accounts for about eight to nine lakh lbs. of rubber as against the all-India figure estimated at about 50 million lbs.

There are seven important rubber factories in the district. These rubber factories are situated within the rubber plantations varying in area from 200 acres which is the minimum to 1,234 acres which is the maximum. The following table indicates the extent of acreage under rubber plantations under each company, the manufacturing activity, output and labour employed.

(1962)

Name and location of the plantations and factory	*Extent of the acreage under rubber plantations*	*Total No. of estate labour*	*Manufacturing activity*	*Average annual output lbs. (Average for last 10 years 1950-1960)*	*Total No. of factory labour*
1. Portland Rubber Estate Co., Ltd., [illegible]	1,234	N.A.	Lace crepe Blanket crepe.	2,50,000	20
2. [illegible] Rubber Estate Co., Ltd., [illegible]	750	N.A.	Smoke sheets.	2,00,000	N.A.
3. [illegible] Malabar [illegible] Co., Ltd., [illegible]	475	69	do	1,84,715	19

Name and location of the plantations and factory	Extent of the acreage under rubber plantations	Total No. of estate labour	Manufacturing activity	Average annual output lbs. (Average for last 10 years 1950-1960)	Total No. of factory labour
4. The Nilambur Rubber Co., Ltd., Devarakolly.	350	75	Smoke sheets	90,000	5
5. Ramapuram Estates and Chikkanaballi Estates, Karadigod. 6. Padanjarakara Estate, Karadigod. 7. K. T. Kunjamman, Chikkanaballi Boovenhalli Estates, Karadigod.	200	N.A.	do	50,000	N.A.
Total ..	3,009			7,74,715	

Note.—1. These rubber plantations and factories are owned by partnership concerns or companies whose head offices are situated outside the Mysore State, especially in Calicut. However, a branch office each in the plantation area itself looks after daily administration.

2. Capital investment figures for any of these factories could not be obtained as their head offices are outside the Mysore State.

It will be seen from the above table that these seven companies have 3,009 acres under rubber plantations and are producing, on an average, about 7,75,000 lbs. of rubber in a year. Apart from the above seven companies, there are other small estate owners who own about 297 acres and produce about 8,000 lbs. of rubber a year, thus bringing the total acreage under rubber plantations and total output of rubber a year for the entire district to 3,306 and about 7,83,000 lbs., respectively.

These rubber factories manufacture dry rubber in the form of lace crepe, blanket crepe or smoke sheets. Of the seven firms mentioned above, all but Portland Rubber Estate Co., Ltd., Makut, produce smoke sheets only. The Portland Company manufactures lace-crepe and blanket-crepe. The smoke sheets, the lace-crepe and the blanket-crepe produced in these factories are sent to Cochin where the companies' agents either auction them in the open market or export them to foreign markets. These sheets will be melted by the purchasers and used in their factories for the manufacture of rubber goods. The largest quantity of Coorg output is absorbed in Cochin itself to be sent to Kottayam where there is a big factory producing rubber goods. A part of the quantity is absorbed by the Bombay market.

It is of interest to note that none of the firms has any idea of producing rubber goods in the district itself, presumably because of two reasons: (1) They make quite a good profit from the present activity itself, namely, the manufacture of smoke sheets or lace-crepe and blanket-crepe and (2) non-availability of special skill which is very essential in the manufacture of rubber products.

Coffee Curing.

Coffee is one of the most important crops in the district of Coorg. Most of the coffee produced in this district is sent either to Chikmagalur or to South Kanara for curing. However, there is one coffee-curing works near Kushalnagar which was established in 1948 by the Consolidated Coffee Estates, Ltd. This was established with the main object of serving the coffee industry in general and the coffee planters of Coorg district in particular. This coffee-curing works which is called "The Kushalnagar Works" is situated near Kudige on the Kushalnagar-Hassan Road.

On 30th June 1963, the investment of this concern was valued at about Rs. 17,00,000. The number of persons employed is about 500 and the total wages paid per month amount to about Rs. 19,000. This factory which has a productive capacity of about 4,200 tons per year had produced 3,131 tons, 2,315 tons, 3,151 tons, 2,704 tons and 4,704 tons during 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59, 1959-60 and 1960-61, respectively. During 1963-64, the production exceeded 5,000 tons. The raw coffee which is received in different forms from the coffee plantations is processed and made ready here for the market. The process consists of drying to the curing point, milling, grading and garbling.

Tea.

Coorg which is famous for coffee plantations has also tea plantations, though on a small scale. There is also a tea factory in Coorg at Hudikeri in Virajpet taluk, a place 49 miles from Mercara.

Originally owned by an English Company since 1915, the tea estate styled now as Glen Lorn Estates and the tea factory situated within the estates were acquired by a new management (Indian)—"The Coorg Tea Company"—in 1943. This company has an original capital investment of Rs. 7,30,000 which forms the share value and a reserve fund amounting to another Rs. 6,50,000 (1962). The company owns a large area of land running to about 1,227 acres (near Hudikeri) which is suitable for tea cultivation but actually only about one-third of the area, *viz*., 450 acres, is now under the plantations, leaving still an area of 777 acres which could be exploited with advantage for tea cultivation.

The factory which is an inevitable adjunct to the tea estates is situated in the heart of the estate. It employs 245 men and

255 women (1962) and pays Rs. 22,000 every month as wages and is fully equipped with modern machinery. All the processes of tea manufacture including the grading and packing of finished tea are done in the factory. The productive capacity of the factory is about 1,82,000 kg. of tea per year. This factory has produced 1,43,188 kg. 1,86,911 kg. 1,60,520 kg. and 1,92,343 kg. during 1958-59, 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62, respectively. The finished tea, graded and packed in the factory itself, is sent to Cochin in hired lorries. In Cochin, the Company's agents auction the tea which is purchased by various other companies like Brooke Bond and Liptons. A small part of the tea produced in this factory is also sent to England directly.

Industrial Training Institute, Mercara.

An institute to impart training in different technical fields was started at Mercara in 1955. Initially, training was given to fitters, carpenters and tailors. In 1957, some more trades were introduced. The courses in this institute now may be classified into engineering and non-engineering. In the engineering field, draughtsmen in civil, mechanical and electrical, fitters, welders, wiremen and turners are being trained. In the non-engineering field, stenographers, tailors and carpenters are being trained. The duration of the course is 18 months for engineering trades and 12 months for trades in non-engineering. The candidates in the engineering field will have an inplant training in any of the industrial concerns for six months. The expenditure incurred will be borne both by the Union and the State Governments at 60 : 40 ratio. In 1963-64, there were 244 candidates receiving training in different crafts. Of the total number of candidates, one-third are paid a stipend of Rs. 25 per month, besides getting free lodging facilities. During 1963-64, there were 16 instructors working in the institute out of the total sanctioned strength of 18.

Mat-weaving Centre, Mercara.

Under the handicrafts scheme, a mat-weaving centre has been started at Mercara during 1962-63 to impart training in advanced techniques in mat-weaving. During 1963-64, nine candidates were trained and the total expenditure of the centre during the year was Rs. 5,154. Training in this centre lasts for six months.

Planning.

Under the First Five-Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 2.87 lakhs was spent for the development of cottage industries like bee-keeping, handloom weaving, pottery and sericulture. Under the Second Five-Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 6.22 lakhs was spent, in addition to Rs. 3.92 lakhs which was given as assistance for development of industries by the Khadi and Village Industries Board. The Rural Industrialisation Scheme in the district, which aims at increasing production and income for industries and gives training to the people in the rural areas in habits of self-help and in the latest modern methods of production, is playing a

significant role in the district. A sum of Rs. 4.10 lakhs has been provided for the development of small-scale industries under the Third Five-Year Plan.

Industrial Estates.

The growth of small-scale industries has been hampered by the absence of proper locational facilities, power, water supply and communications. To overcome these difficulties, a network of industrial estates with different types of worksheds providing accommodation and planned lay-out has been drawn up. In this district, two industrial estates, one at Mercara and another at Virajpet, have been sanctioned under the Third Five-Year Plan with the following provisions.

	Location of industrial estate	*Estimated cost*	*Number of worksheds*
		Rs.	
1.	Mercara	1.50 lakhs	6
2.	Virajpet .. .	1.50 lakhs	6

Land to put up the estate has been acquired at Mercara and the buildings are coming up. At Virajpet, efforts to have a suitable land have already been made.

Development Areas.

Development areas are plots of developed lands to be made available to the small-scale industrial units, so that they may have the advantage of common services and other facilities like good site, electricity and water supply. The sites would be available to small industrialists either on outright sale or hire-purchase basis, so that they can put up their own worksheds of approved designs. During the Third Five-Year Plan, one such development area is proposed to be located in the district.

The estates and development areas will be provided with a common facility centre or a workshop equipped with necessary modern machinery, which the small industrialists cannot afford to purchase for themselves. The centre, in addition to affording services to the industries on payment of nominal service charges, will disseminate technical know-how to workers engaged in the small-scale industries located in the estate.

Co-operative or private industrial estates.

The establishment of two or three industrial estates and development areas in a district will not by itself solve the ever-increasing problem of accommodation of the small-scale industrialists and it may not be possible for the Government to establish more industrial estates and development areas in view of limited financial resources. Therefore, Government have thought of

helping industrialists who come forward to establish industrial estates either on co-operative or joint-stock basis.

Industrial Co-operatives.

To encourage village and small-scale industries, industrial co-operative societies have been organised at places where there is sufficient concentration of artisans and scope for development of various industries. Co-operative societies can undertake joint purchase of raw materials in bulk at cheaper rates or organise the sales through the marketing society. Common facilities can also be arranged by societies which an individual unit may not be able to afford. By pooling their experience and resources, members of co-operative societies would also be in a position to solve their individual as well as collective problems. The Government have been rendering assistance to the co-operatives, by way of loans and grants, formation of sales depots and technical guidance. The following are the industrial co-operatives in the district.

INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES. (1963-64).

Name and Address	*Industries*
MERCARA TALUK	
1. The Coorg District Brick-Makers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Mercara.	Bricks.
2. Khadi Gramodyoga Sahakari Sangh, Ltd., Mercara.	Khadi.
3. Potters' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Hoddur.	Pottery.
4. Coorg Progressive Bee-keeping Society, Ltd., Bhagamandala.	Bee keeping
5. Bethu Davasa Napoklu Bhandar, Ltd., Napoklu.	Hand-pounding of rice.
6. Balamuri Sahakara Davasa Sangh, Ltd., Napoklu.	do
7. Bethu Harijan Craft Co-operative Society Ltd., Bethu, near Napoklu.	
SOMWARPET TALUK	
1. Cotton Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Sanivarasanthe	Handloom fabrics.
2. Sirangala Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Sirangala	do
3. Sri Rameswar Large-Scale Co-operative Society, Kudumangalore.	Soap
4. Fruit and Vegetable Processing Co-operative Society, Ltd., Kushalnagar.	Fruit and vegetable processing.

Name and Address	Industries
5. Harijan Mat-weaving Co-operative Society, Chikbhandar.	Mat
6. Somwarpet Bamboo Workers' Co-operative Society, Guddehosur.	Nursery baskets and thatties.
7. Large-Size Multi-Purpose Co-operative Society, Ltd., Hebbale.	Bone-Meal.
8. Basavanahalli Tribal Colony, Basavanahalli.	Hand-pounding of rice.
VIRAJPET TALUK	
1 Coorg Honey and Wax Co-operative Society, Ltd., Virajpet.	Bee-keeping.
2. Chamara Kaigarika Sangha, Virajpet	Leather products.
3. Rice Hand-Pounders' and Beaten Rice Manufacturing Co-operative Society, Ltd., Mahakut.	Hand-pounding of rice.
4. Khadi Gramodyoga Sahakari Sangh Ltd., Devenageri.	Khadi.
5. Shri Shalivan Sangh Multi-purpose Co-operative Society, Madikebeedu.	Pottery
6. Shri Rama Multi-purpose Co-operative Society, Ltd., Virajpet.	Leather products
7. Fruit-Processing Co-operative Society Ltd., Gonikoppal.	Fruit-processing.

The Industries and Commerce Department has been assisting eleven mahila samajas in Coorg district by giving necessary finance as grant-in-aid. These samajas are engaged in small industries like tailoring and embroidery work. The following is the list of such mahila samajas in Coorg district. (1963-64).

Mahila Samajas.

MERCARA TALUK

1. Mahadevpeth Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Mercara.
2. Kodagu Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Fort, Mercara.
3. Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Napoklu.

SOMWARPET TALUK

1. Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Somwarpet.
2. Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Sanivarasanthe.
3. Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Kodlipet.
4. Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Kushalnagar.

VIRAJPET TALUK

1. Kodagu Co-operative Mahila Samaja, Virajpet.
2. Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Gonikoppal.
3. Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Ponnampet.
4. Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Pollibetta.

Industrial Potentialities.

Of all industrial possibilities, that which seems to have large potentialities in Coorg is the carpentry industry. Coorg is known for its rich forest resources and therefore the raw material, namely, timber, is available in abundance. It is rather surprising that in spite of this rich timber wealth and quite a considerable demand for articles of carpentry, this industry has not been well-developed. Skilled carpenters are sparse in number and in the absence of skilled local carpenters, the district depends largely upon imported labour—mobile labour from the adjoining districts for getting their carpentry work done. The usual practice is for the people (as for example, the planters) who are in need of furniture and other wooden fittings to obtain the services of skilled carpenters from Mysore and Malabar, predominently from the latter, and engage them on wage basis for executing their orders. The imported carpenters are supplied timber by the employers themselves and are engaged in their premises. Getting the service of outside labour is both expensive and difficult. By opening more carpentry schools at suitable centres like Kushalnagar and Virajpet, the district can have trained carpenters to develop this industry. Kushalnagar (Fraserpet) will be an ideal centre for carpentry and woodwork. Good timber is available within a distance of 18 to 20 miles and the town has a climate which is suitable for carpentry work to be conducted throughout the year. An additional advantage for Kushalnagar to become a carpentry centre is the availability of markets. Kushalnagar itself is a town and will absorb a good amount of the production. It is quite near to Mercara and it is near to Mysore also-about 50 miles—and so markets could be developed for furniture and other carpentry products in Mysore also. There are a few small towns nearby Kushalnagar which also could be marketing centres for the products of that town. Besides Kushalnagar, other places nearby like Kudige, Hebbale and Sirangala could be developed as carpentry centres since they also enjoy very nearly the same climate and same advantages as Kushalnagar does. Once the carpentry industry is organised on healthy lines, Coorg can try its hand at allied industries like lacquer-ware industry. The important raw material, namely, soft wood, is available in plenty all over Coorg and this should be exploited for starting the lacquer-ware industry on a small-scale. Kushalnagar again seems an ideal centre for starting this industry.

Cane and bamboo are two other materials which are available in Coorg in abundance. Yet cane work, rattan work and bamboo

craft, far from having been developed, have been neglected like carpentry. Hence, side by side with the development of carpentry industry, measures should be taken to popularise cane work and bamboo craft also.

Mysore forests are known for bamboos and the Coorg-Mysore-Kollegal zone is only next in importance to that of the Kanara zone. It is estimated by the Chief Conservator of Forests in Mysore that the former zone which is an un-tapped region, possesses more than three lakhs of acres of bamboo, with an annual yield of 1.18 lakh tons of bamboo. As the bamboo resources of this zone are at present going to waste, an economic unit for rayon or paper pulp industry may be started and developed with advantage. Coorg is thus ideally suited for starting a paper industry. Experts who have made a detailed study on the subject have endorsed this.

Though Coorg abounds in rich forests, there are only two saw mills (as said already) in the whole of Coorg, namely, the Appachu Saw Mill at Mercara and the Government Saw Mill at Murkal. Mercara, Kushalnagar and Virajpet seem to be ideal centres for starting new saw mills. Another line of enterprise which holds bright prospects for development in Coorg by virtue of its resources of timber is ply-wood and hard-board industries.

Coorg, situated on the eastern and western slopes of the Western Ghats, is an area of heavy rainfall. As a result, the umbrella has become an inevitable equipment to every one in the district. The present demand for umbrellas is met by imports from outside the district. Hence, an umbrella factory on a small-scale may be started in Coorg itself, preferably in Mercara. The raw materials, namely, taffeta cloth and steel ribs, will have to be obtained from outside the district, the former from Mysore or Bangalore and the latter from Bombay or Calcutta where they are available, while, the raw material for the stem, namely, bamboo (of a special quality) is available in Coorg itself.

Manufacture of laundry soaps and toilet soaps is another line of activity which holds good prospects in the district of Coorg. The demand in the district with a population of 3,22,829 (1961) must be great and soap—both laundry and toilet varieties—is being imported from outside liberally. To meet the demand, a couple of soap manufacturing units may be started in the district.

As oranges are grown in plenty in Coorg and as it is found difficult to preserve them for use all the year round, it has been proposed from time to time to set up a plant for the extraction and preservation of orange juice. It is estimated that, on an average, about 2,000 lorry loads (8,000 tons) are produced every year. Two crops, the summer crop and the monsoon crop, are

obtained in a year. The summer crop is the main crop in respect of quantity, quality and value and it is harvested between December to March. This crop constitutes about 85 per cent of the total production of oranges in Coorg. This is followed by the monsoon crop which is of little consequence as it does not ripen properly and is of poor quality. This is harvested from June to August and fetches a poor price. Being a seasonal fruit, Coorg oranges are only available during the main orange season (December to March). Almost all the produce has to be marketed outside Coorg in the absence of any consuming market inside the district. It is estimated that there is a loss of about ten per cent during harvesting these oranges and there is a further loss of ten per cent during transport and storage. Since usually the best and the big size oranges are the first to be damaged, the financial loss is really greater than 20 per cent. Converting these oranges into concentrated juice will go a long way to solve the problem of wastage. Therefore, it is necessary to introduce proper scientific methods for the profitable disposal of oranges. It is felt worthwhile to establish a cold storage plant and a plant to produce concentrated orange juice in Coorg on the model which is now functioning in Nagpur. As the first step to this, two societies at Kushalnagar and Gonikoppal have been recently registered and it is hoped that there will be two factories in Coorg in the near future to produce concentrated orange juice.

It is evident from the above picture that the district of Coorg, though backward now in industrial development, can be exploited profitably. Due attention is being devoted to industrial development under the five-year plans. When the Barapole hydro-electric project materialises, it will enable the starting of more industries in the district. As said already, two industrial estates, one at Mercara and another at Virajpet, are coming up under the Third Five-Year Plan and with the establishment of these, there is bound to be industrial acceleration.

Welfare of industrial labour.

The welfare of industrial labour is a necessary part of industrial development. Since the district has no large-scale industries, plantation labour constitutes the bulk of the labour population in the district. The various labour laws in force in the district are the Industrial Disputes Act, the Indian Trade Unions Act, the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, the Minimum Wages Act, the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Weekly Holidays' Act.

Welfare amenities such as free quarters, free medical aid and rest shed are provided by the Kushalnagar Coffee Works, Ltd., Kudige, for the workers. There is a Works and Production Committee consisting of representatives from the workers' side and from the staff. The committee normally meets once a month

to discuss with the management matters regarding welfare amenities.

The Government Workshop, Mercara, and the Government Saw Mill at Murkal have provided free quarters for their employees. The other industrial concerns are providing free medical aid to their workers. The rubber, tea and coffee estates are following the Plantation Labour Act and are providing amenities to their workers.

The labour welfare aspect has been dealt with at length in Chapter XVII—Other Social Services.

Flowering Calendar of the Bee Flora of Coorg.

January

1. *Nimbe Gida*—Citrus medica, Linn., var acida.
2. *Noga Mara*—Cedrela tonna, Roxb.
3. *Tumbe Gida*—Leucas aspera, Spreng.
4. *Mavina Mara*—Mangifera indica, Linn.
5. *Ambate Mara*—Spondias mangifera, Willd.
6. *Buruga Mara*—Eriodendron anfractuosum, D.C.
7. *Kadu Tumbe Gida*—Leucas helianthemifolia, Desf.
8. *Muni Mullu*—Mimosa pudica, Linn.
9. *Nekki*—Vitex negundo, Linn.

February

1. *Noga Mara*—Cedrela tonna, Roxb.
2. *Nerale Mara*—Eugenia jambolana, Lam.
3. *Tengina Mara*—Cocos nucifera, Linn.
4. *Sige Tade*—Acacia concinna, D.C.
5. *Kadu Geru*—Semecarpus anacardium, Linn.
6. *Ambate Mara*—Spondias mangifera, Willd.
7. *Geru Mara*—Anacardium occidentale, Linn.
8. *Bage Mara*—Albizzia lebbeck, Benth.
9. *Parivala*—Erythrina indica, Linn.
10. *Kadu Parivala*—Erythrina lithosperma, Miq.
11. *Adike Hoo*—Areca catechu, Linn.
12. *Coffee Gida*—Coffee arabica, Linn.
13. *Tumbe Gida*—Leucas aspera, Spreng.
14. *Sanna Anugalu*—Schefflera venulosa, Harms.

March

1. *Nandi Mara*—Lagerstoemia lanceolata, wall.
2. *Bage Mara*—Albizzia lebbeck, Benth.
3. *Nayi Tulasi*—Stachytarpheta indica, Wahl.
4. *Sanna Anugalu*—Schefflera venulosa, Harms.
5. *Kadu Coffee*—Casaeria rubescence, Dalz.
6. *Karekayi Mara*—Randia dumentorum, Lam.
7. *Kithale Gida*—Citrus Aurantium, Linn.
8. *Sige Thade*—Acacia concinna, D.C.
9. *Bale Mara*—Diospyros ebenum, Koenig.
10. *Nelli*—Emblica officinalis, Gaertn.
11. *Nerale Mara*—Eugenia jambalana, Lam.
12. *Bili Dhoopa*—Vateria indica, Linn.
13. *Bite Mara*—Dalbergia latifolia, Roxb.
14. *Honge Mara*—Pongamia glabra, vent.

April

1. *Dodda Anugalu*—Schefflera wallichiana, Harms.
2. *Kurambelu*—Fluggea leucopyrus, Willd.

3. *Ponji Noga*—Heynea trijuga, Roxb.
4. *Karmanji Tade*—Carissa inermis, Wahl.
5. *Nayi Tulasi*—Stachytarpheta indica, Wahl.
6. *Bennekarthi*—Mussenda frondosa, Linn.
7. *Nandi Mara*—Lagerstroemia lanceolata, Wall.
8. *Southe Balli*—Cucumis sativus, Linn.
9. *Sasive Gida*—Brassica juncea, H.F. & T.
10. *Bage Mara*—Albizzia lebbeck.
11. *Kadu Mallige*—Jasminum regidum, Zenker.
12. *Nerale Mara*—Eugenia jambolana, Lam.
13. *Bilwarada Mara*—Albizzia odoratissima, Benth.
14. *Bili Ummatti*—Brunsfelsia.

May

1. *Nandi Mara*—Lagerstroemia lanceolata, Wall.
2. *Dodda Anugalu*—Schefflera wallichiana, Harms.
3. *Sanna Anugalu*—Schefflera Venulosa, Harms.
4. *Bili Ummatti*—Brunsfelsia.
5. *Tadasalu Mara*—Grewia umbellifera, Bedd.
6. *Udutale*—Memecylon sisparense, Gamb.
7. *Bennekarthi*—Mussaenda frondosa, Linn.
8. *Ranjada Mara*—Mimusops elengi, Linn.
9. *Hunise Mara*—Tamarindus indica, Linn.
10. *Adike Mara*—Areca catechu, Linn.
11. *Kithale Gida*—Citrus aurantium, Linn.
12. *Tumbe Gida*—Leucas aspera, Spreng.
13. *Dodda Bandanike*—Loranthus longiflorus, Desf.
14. *Jambu Nerale*—Eugenia jambos, Linn.
15. *Sampige Mara*—Michelia champaka, Linn.
16. *Honne Mara*—Pterocarpus Marsupium, Roxb.
17. *Gandhada Mara*—Santalum album, Linn.
18. *Dalimbe Gida*—Punica granatum, Linn.
19. *Kadu Tumbe*—Leucas helianthemifolia, Desf.

June

1. *Dodda Anugalu*—Schefflera wallichiana, Harms.
2. *Sanna Anugalu*—Schefflera venulosa, Harms.
3. *Mara Anugalu*—Schefflera racemosa, Harms.
4. *Kurambelu*—Fluggea leucopyrus, Willd.
5. *Butale*—Grewia oppositifolia, Roxb.
6. *Tegada Mara*—Tectona grandis, Linn.

July

1. *Mooda Mara*—Ochna squamosa, Linn.
2. *Chepe Mara*—Psidium Guyava, Linn.
3. *Kempu Dasavala*—Hibiscus Rosa-sinensis, Linn.
4. *Nayi Tulasi*—Stachytarpheta indica, Wahl.
5. *Muni Mullu*—Mimosa pudica, Linn.
6. *Kadu Kumbala Balli*—Vitis spp.
7. *Tumbe Gida*—Leucas aspera, Spreng.
8. *Bili Ummatti*—Brunsfelsia.

9. *Gini Grass*—Panicum jamentorum, Pers.
10. *Chinnada Kaddi*—Solidago canadenis.

August

1. *Tumbe Gida*—Leucas aspera, Spreng.
2. *Bili Ummatti*—Brunsfelsia.
3. *Kempu Dasavala*—Hibiscus Rosa-sinensis, Linn.
4. *Sevantige Gida*—Chrysanthemum indicum, Linn.
5. *Honne Mara*—Pterocarpus marsupium, Roxb.
6. *Chinnada Kaddi*—Solidago canadenis.
7. *Kadu Kumbala Balli*—Vitis spp.

September

1. *Tumbe Gida*—Leucas aspera, Spreng.
2. *Bili Tumbe*—Leucas lanata, Benth.
3. *Kempu Dasavala*—Hibiscus Rosa-sinensis, Linn.
4. *Bili Dasavala*—Hibiscus Rosa-sinensis, Linn; var alba, Plenus.
5. *Chepe Mara*—Psidium Guyava, Linn.
6. *Honne Mara*—Pterocarpus marsupium, Roxb.
7. *Sige Tade*—Acacia concinna, D.C.
8. *Kadu Kumbala Balli*—Vitis spp.
9. *Udutale*—Memecylon sisparense, Gamb.

October

1. *Sige Tade*—Acacia concinna, D.C.
2. *Baine Mara*—Caryota urens, Linn.

November

1. *Jambu Nerale*—Eugenia jambos, Linn.
2. *Nelli Mara*—Emblica officinalis, Gaertn.
3. *Nekki*—Vitex negundo, Linn.
4. *Chinnada Kaddi*—Solidago canadenis.
5. *Nayi Tulasi*—Stachytarpheta indica, Wahl.
6. *Tumbe Gida*—Leucas aspera, Spreng.
7. *Bili Ummatti*—Brunsfelsia.
8. *Suryakanthi*—Helianthus annuus, Linn.
9. *Honne Mara*—Pterocarpus Marsupium, Roxb.
10. *Suragi Mara*—Ochrocarpus longifolius, Benth, & Hook.

December

1. *Bili Tumbe*—Leucas lanata, Benth.
2. *Suragi Mara*—Ochrocarpus longifolius, Benth & Hook.
3. *Mavina Mara*—Mangifera indica, Linn.
4. *Avare Gida*—Dolichos lablab, Linn.
5. *Noga Mara*—Cedrela Toona, Roxb.
6. *Bili Matti Mara*—Terminalia arjuna, Bedd.
7. *Kadu Badami*—Terminalia Catappa, Linn.

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE.

A.—BANKING AND FINANCE.

History of Indigenous Banking.

ACCORDING to information collected by the Banking Enquiry Committee and also by the Coorg Economic Committee (1935), it looked as though there were no professional money-lenders at all in Coorg. But undoubtedly, there were both affluent cultivators and merchants who had made a regular practice of lending money, in addition to their more legitimate pursuits. It is to these people that the money-less raiyats turned for cash credit for their everyday expenses. To some extent, the cultivators went to them for larger loans also, for purposes such as marriages and funerals, as well as for the purchase of seed, cattle, manure and other requirements. The larger loans were usually secured by mortgages, usufructuary or otherwise, of land. More rarely, security was taken in the form of jewels, or other personal effects. The small loans, perhaps upto a sum of Rs. 50, were given on pro-notes with no security at all. It is also on record that the practice of hypothecating the crop was also prevalent and this led to all kinds of abuses. Credit facilities did exist before the advent of modern banking. Credit of this nature was easily available to well-known customers of whose solvency there was little or no doubt. In fact, it can be said that the difficulty in obtaining a simple loan or short credit now is much greater than it was in the past.

The rates of interest charged in private transactions were not uniform. There were cases in which the rate of interest was as high as 36 per cent, but it appears doubtful if such a rate was charged on a mortgage transaction. The normal rate for a secured debt was from 12 to 18 per cent and on an unsecured debt it was as high as 24 or 25 per cent. A rate which doubled the capital amount in four years, which was certainly very high, seems to have been prevalent in a few places, but such a rate was charged where there was no security. It has been recorded in the Report of the Coorg Economic Committee that there were a few instances of professional money-lenders who resided in the Mysore territory and accommodated some inhabitants of North Coorg. A comparison between Coorg and other parts of India will show that the

professional money-lenders did not establish themselves in this area. The Coorg Economic Committee (1935) has this to say :— " Though we have heard witnesses declare that the rates of interest in force have hit the ryot hard and reduced him to beggary, we have not had one witness who could tell us that any particular money-lender had made a fortune out of his money-lending activities. If the ryot at large has been beggared by money-lenders, his accumulated wealth must have gone somewhere. It is true that we have been told of a few instances of wealthy ryots who lend money and there are one or two professional money-lenders who reside in Mysore territory and accommodate some inhabitants of North Coorg. It has not, however, been suggested to us that these particular people have made their wealth by such transactions ; rather, it is suggested that they lend money because they are wealthy. Moreover, a comparison between Coorg and other parts of India will show that in this province we have reason to be grateful that the professional money-lender has not established himself and introduced those practices which result in the interest charged working upto 50, 100 or even 200 per cent "[1]

In this connection, we may note that in Coorg, there was a beneficial interpretation of the Law of Dundapath in favour of debtors at the beginning. In other parts of India where the Law of Dundapath prevailed, it was so administered that when a creditor filed a suit he was not entitled to claim more interest on his loan than the principal amount of the loan, irrespective of how much interest he might have recovered before coming to court. In Coorg, it was held that the interest recovered before coming to court should also be taken into account while calculating whether the interest claimed exceeded or equalled the original amount of the loan. The Coorg interpretation of the law has had a beneficial effect in minimising the evils of indebtedness.

On transactions in kind, it is not always easy to know the rate actually charged. The creditor has it in his power, particularly when dealing with an illiterate raiyat, to manipulate the transaction so as to receive double or more than double the nominal rate charged. The prevailing practice in Coorg appears to have been for the merchant to calculate the amount of loan he was prepared to advance upon the then price of paddy. Where it was in effect a purchase and the paddy was delivered within one or two weeks, the full market rate was allowed, less commission and charges incurred. This type of transaction was not strictly a loan at all. In other cases, where a loan was required for working expenses or some similar purpose, the same calculation was made, but the merchant who had to wait for two, three or perhaps six months for his paddy made a corresponding reduction in the amount he was prepared to advance. Further more, it

1. Report of the Coorg Economic Committee, 1935, pp. 12—13.

appears doubtful if the raiyat ever really knew at what price the merchant sold his paddy. This type of transaction has not entirely disappeared in the rural parts of the district. As regards the rates of interest charged before 1935 for such transactions, we may quote the following from the Report of the Coorg Economic Committee. "From the figures quoted to us by some witnesses, it appears as if the rate of interest charged frequently amounts to 25 or 30 per cent for a period of only 3 or 4 months. The annual rate would, therefore, work out to 100 or 120 per cent. This, however, is not an entirely correct way of viewing the position. In fact, the debt is repaid at the harvest season, and if the merchant has to wait an extra month or two, his total interest does not vary. The merchant is also taking a risk and gambling on the price in the paddy market. Such practices as writing a pronote for double the amount received and including the interest in the amount recited in the note were mentioned to us, but the evidence we had on this point went to show that these practices were on the decrease."[1] Generally speaking, therefore, it may be said that though in the absolute sense the rates of interest prevailing were high, in the relative sense it would not be correct to say that they were unduly high. To put it in another way, while it may be considered that they were susceptible of beneficial reduction, it may not be correct to stigmatise them as exorbitant.

The credit which the raiyat required in Coorg was of three kinds. For cultivation and other expenses he needed short-term loans which were to be ordinarily repaid within one year or even less. For larger expenses for improvements to his holding, he required loans repayable within five or at the most ten years. For the clearance of his existing debt, he needed a long-term loan which could be cleared in a period of 20 or 25 years. The only available security in Coorg was land.

In the absence of professional money-lenders, the raiyats depended for their credit on those who could give loans easily. The merchants knew the parties well and advanced loans on securities or on trust. This was the picture in Coorg before the advent of banking facilities. It was only after 1922 that banking in the modern sense came to be known in the district when the first banking institution called the Coorg State Co-operative Bank Ltd., was established.

Indebtedness.

Coorg district shares equally with other districts of the State the burden of indebtedness. The crucial fact that there is wide spread indebtedness has been admitted by the Coorg Economic Committee which went into the question in 1935. The basis on which to arrive at possible conclusions in the matter of indebtedness is largely an academic one. The Madras Provincial Banking

1. Report of the Coorg Economic Committee, 1935, p. 14

Enquiry Coorg Sub-Committee, in their report in 1930, estimated the total debt at something between 25 and 30 lakhs of rupees, their estimate being based on figures collected from 14 villages. This figure was not acceptable to the then District Magistrate who pointed out that as the loans taken both through Co-operative Societies and under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts amounted to Rs. 11 lakhs, the estimate made by the Banking Enquiry Committee was probably too low. He estimated that the total debt stood at about 40 lakhs of rupees. In a detailed assessment of the actual indebtedness conducted by the Coorg Economic Committee (1935), figures from 13 villages were collected. The debts included sums due to Government and to co-operative societies as well as to private creditors. The survey conducted in these 13 villages disclosed a total debt of Rs. 4,28,000. The population of these villages was 9,300 compared with a total population in Coorg of 1,63,000. On the population basis, therefore, the total debt amounted to Rs. 75 lakhs. The Economic Committee made yet another calculation based on the cultivated area in Coorg (excluding estates) and the result was an estimated debt of Rs. 70 lakhs including an amount of Rs. 8,12,781 supplied by the co-operative institutions. These estimates may not be precise because the debtors may not wholly disclose the actual amount they owe. It is also clear that those who draw loans are easily attracted by the terms offered by co-operative institutions and this accounts for the fact that they do not largely seek credit from private money-lenders. According to the 1931 census, the male agricultural population of the district was 44,000. This class was probably the type that went to co-operative institutions for obtaining loans. The assessment by the Economic Committee revealed that 11,000 persons had borrowed Rs. 17 lakhs. As the total agricultural population was 44,000, the total debt was about 68 lakhs of rupees. If the amount due previously to co-operative institutions, *i.e.*, about eight lakhs of rupees was added to this, the total debt of the district then was about 76 lakhs of rupees. On a consideration of these calculations, the Committee felt that it was not unreasonable to assess the total indebtedness in the district at something between Rs. 70 and 80 lakhs. After the report of the Coorg Economic Committee was published in 1935, there has been no attempt to assess the extent of indebtedness. Indebtedness has been a major factor impeding the economic growth of the district and several attempts have been made to scale down the extent of indebtedness. Land Mortgage Banks now provide long-term loans upto 25 years. Intermediate loans upto 10 years are supplied by Government under the Land Improvement and Agricultural Loans Acts, and short-term loans are provided by co-operative institutions. Proper and close co-ordination between the Debt Conciliation Boards and the Land Mortgage Banks served to eliminate several bottlenecks regarding the availabilty of credit and also to minimise the extent of large indebtedness. The then existing debt of Rs. 75 lakhs carried an

interest from five per cent in the case of Government loans to 25 per cent in the case of private loans and even higher where transactions in kind were concerned. The Economic Committee urged the necessity to clear these oppressive debts by affording easy terms. This obviously demanded special organisations and the Land Mortgage Banks and the Debt Conciliation Boards came nearest to solving the problem. Even now, indebtedness among the small agricultural holders and the labour class has not been completely eliminated. The causes of indebtedness are many and in Coorg the general world depression was acutely felt. In recent years, the institutional credit facilities have largely scaled down the extent of indebtedness and there has been a perceptible improvement in the economy of the cultivators. The total number of co-operative institutions alone in the district was 450 during 1963-64. As the cultivator gets a better price for his produce, he is not weighed down by heavy debt. There has also been a growth of the habit of savings among the people and this district was selected during 1961-62 as a model district for conducting a drive to intensify the collection under the National Savings Scheme. The total collections for 1961-62 till the end of February 1962 under this scheme amounted to about Rs. 13,70,000.

Loans and Advances.

Several categories of loans are being given to the people of the district for the betterment of their economic condition. The statement below indicates the Land Improvement and Agricultural loans, Horticultural loans, Pepper loans and Cardamom loans allotted and sanctioned from 1959-60 to 1963-64.

TABLE—(*vide* Statement on page No. 212).

Joint Stock Banks.

The Canara Banking Corporation was the first to open a branch at Mercara in 1934 and in 1964 there were ten branches of joint stock banks located in various places of the district. There was a branch bank for every 32,282 of the population in the district (excluding the co-operative banks) as against the all-India figure of one bank for every 75,000 of the population. The growth of commerce and the high level of education in the district have helped in the development of banking. The banks also play an important role in the mobilisation of savings by way of acceptance of deposits and issue of loans.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ALLOTMENT, EXPENDITURE AND BALANCE UNDER DIFFERENT KINDS OF LOANS IN COORG DISTRICT (1959-60 TO 1963-64).

Year	*Land Improvement Loan*			*Agricultural Loan*			*Horticultural Loan*			*Pepper Loan*			*Cardamom Loan*		
	Allot-ment	*Expendi-ture*	*Balance*	*Allot-ment*	*Expendi-ture*	*Balance*	*Allot-ment*	*Expendi-ture*	*Balance*	*Allot-ment*	*Expendi-ture*	*Balance*	*Allot-ment*	*Expendi-ture*	*Balance*
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1959–60	69,000	..	..	1,07,000	1,07,000	..	2,52,500	2,29,700	22,800	15,250	9,500	6,750	..	..	..
1960–61	50,000	..	..	35,000	35,000	..	2,78 000	2,76,142	1,858	48.500	37,700	10,800	30,000	10,000	20,000
1961–62	40,000	6,800	33,200	1,00,000	8,300	91,700	1,50,000	1,41,594	8,406	34,163	31,550	2,613	25,000	25,000	..
1962–63	53,400	45,250	8,150	40,000	27,750	12,250	91,000	86,775	4,225	40,000	19,580	20,420	24,550	23,810	740
1963–64	50,000	47,750	2,250	50,000	44,850	5,150	50,000	49,996	4	15,000	7,905	7,095	16,500	16,500	..

All the ten branches of joint stock banks (1964) in the district have their registered offices outside the district. The following statement gives the names and other details of these branches :—

Sl. No.	*Name of the Place*	*Name of the Bank's Office*	*Nature of office*	*Year of starting*
1.	Mercara	.. (1) State Bank of India	Branch Office	1955
		(2) Canara Banking Corporation	do	1934
		(3) Canara Bank	do	1957
		(4) Vijaya Bank	do	1946
2.	Virajpet	.. (1) State Bank of India	do	1956
		(2) Canara Banking Corporation	do	1935
3.	Somwarpet	.. (1) Canara Banking Corporation	do	1951
4.	Ponnampet	.. (1) Canara Banking Corporation	do	1950
5.	Kushalnagar	.. (1) Canara Banking Corporation	do	1060
6.	Gonikoppal	.. (1) Vijaya Bank	do	1059

State Bank of India.

The State Bank of India's branch at Mercara was established in February 1955 as a branch of the Imperial Bank of India. The Imperial Bank of India was nationalised and constituted as the State Bank of India under the State Bank of India Act, 1955. Another branch at Virajpet was opened in 1956 under the expansion scheme with the main object of providing the people in the rural areas with banking facilities.

These branches conduct banking business of every description, including the issue of travellers' cheques, preparation of income tax returns on behalf of the constituents and foreign exchange business. Though established as commercial institutions, they have public service as their main objective and in furtherance of this, they have undertaken many schemes of financial assistance to industry and trade. The assistance provided by them to various institutions can be broadly classified into four categories. They are : (1) general facilities such as remittance facilities and concession rates for collection of cheques, (2) provision of credit facilities to marketing and processing societies, (3) provision of credit facilities against warehouse receipts and (4) finance for land mortgage banks. One of the developmental activities undertaken by the branches of the State Bank of India is the provision of credit facilities to small-scale industries, and was put into operation on a pilot basis in April 1956. The essence of the scheme relates to close co-ordination of the activities of the various agencies associated with the scheme, *viz.*, the State Industries Department, the State Finance Corporation, the Small-scale Industries Service Institute and the National Small Industries Corporation Limited. This scheme has been working successfully and the branches in Coorg have been able to extend much needed facilities to small-scale units. Besides, these branches have been

extending financial assistance to the people of the district by way of advances against the stock of agricultural produce. They have been helping the coffee-growers on the security of crop and land.

The Canara Banking Corporation, Limited.

The Canara Banking Corporation which was incorporated on 28th May 1906 with its head office at Udipi with the object of aiding agriculturists, industrialists and traders, has opened five branches in Coorg district located at Mercara, Virajpet, Somwarpet, Ponnampet and Kushalnagar. The branch at Mercara which was opened in November 1934 was the first joint stock branch bank to be opened in the district. Before the opening of this branch, there was no other joint stock bank in Coorg and the business community and the planters till then were experiencing great inconvenience and had at times to run up to Mysore, Bangalore and other places to avail themselves of the banking services. This was the period when trade was in the grip of depression, with a steep fall in the prices of coffee and cardamom—the chief agricultural produces of the district—and money was very dear. Money-lending was in the hands of a few indigenous private bankers. The rates of interest charged were usurious. The starting of the branch office of the Canara Banking Corporation at Mercara was very opportune and its success in rendering banking services to the local people infused confidence in the minds of the people of other towns like Virajpet, Somwarpet and Ponnampet. The second branch in Coorg was opened at Virajpet in 1935. The Ponnampet and Somwarpet branches were opened in 1950 and 1951, respectively. The last and the fifth branch in Coorg was opened at Kushalnagar in 1960. In the beginning, it was not possible for the Mercara and Virajpet branches (earliest branches) to tackle problems of long-term financing, but consistent with the available scope and taking into consideration the safety first principle with due regard to the liquidity of advances, these branches began serving their constituents in the district by granting them short-term advances on tangible and easily marketable and readily realisable securities having a quick turnover, *viz.*, gold ornaments, promissory notes, approved merchandise and hypothecation of standing crops. Now, all the five branches are affording all types of banking facilities to the people of the district.

Vijaya Bank.

This bank which was established at Mangalore in 1931 has two branches, one at Mercara and another at Gonikoppal which were opened in 1946 and 1959, respectively. These branches in Coorg were primarily established for the promotion of savings from the public and for the financing of the coffee crop. The Vijaya Bank through its two branches in the district has invested over Rs. 10,00,000 by way of advances on the coffee crops as well as in the finance of transport, trade and commerce. Apart from the encouragement given to the coffee industry, the two branches have collected considerable deposits from the public through current accounts, savings deposits, fixed deposits, monthly savings deposits called recurring deposits and Vijaya Cash Certificates.

Canara Bank Limited.

This bank which was established at Mangalore first as 'The Canara Hindu Permanent Fund Ltd.,' in July 1906 and which was reconstituted as the 'Canara Bank Limited' in 1910, opened a branch office at Mercara in August 1957. When this bank came into being in 1906 in South Kanara, there were no joint stock banking institutions in Coorg district. Mangalore being a port of considerable importance to Coorg, the Canara Bank at Mangalore was giving credit facilities to the merchants of Coorg, who had otherwise to borrow at very high rates of interest from individuals. Even before opening the branch office at Mercara, the Canara Bank was a useful institution to the people of Coorg. The opening of a branch office at Mercara helped in increasing the Bank's usefulness to the district, and it has contributed its share towards the economic betterment of the area.

Co-operative Movement.

The co-operative movement in Coorg was started in 1905. The All-India Co-operative Act of 1904 was extended to Coorg in 1905 and the first credit society in Coorg was registered on 20th May 1905. The Coorg Legislative Council enacted the Coorg Co-operative Societies Act, 1936 (Act II of 1936). In 1941, the Co-operative Societies Amendment Act was passed (Coorg Act I of 1941) and it was in force till the promulgation of the Mysore Co-operative Societies Act in 1959 covering all parts of the enlarged Mysore State. The co-operative movement is quite popular in Coorg and almost every section of the people—agriculturists, businessmen, traders and Government servants—are members of one kind of co-operative society or other. The following is a statement showing the progress of the co-operative movement in Coorg from time to time.

TABLE—(*vide* Statement on page 216).

The Coorg District Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., Mercara.

This Bank was originally registered on 28th June 1921 with jurisdiction extending over the whole of Coorg district with head-quarters at Mercara and it started working from February 1922. A band of enthusiastic co-operators, officials and non-officials, with Sri Kodandera Cootaiah as the President, set their hands to work for this central organisation. The name of the Bank originally was 'Central Bank' which was changed to 'Provincial Co-operative Bank' in 1946 and again changed to 'Coorg State Co-operative Bank' in 1956. Later, the name was changed as 'The Coorg District Co-operative Central Bank'. In the first year of its working, it had secured a membership of 64 and on 30th June 1963, the same had reached to 1,008. At the commencement, the paid-up share-capital was Rs. 4,400 as against Rs. 18,46,000 on 30th June 1963. Of this, the Government contribution was Rs. 6,00,000. Co-operative societies have contributed a sum of Rs. 11,65,000 towards the share capital. The balance of Rs. 81,000 was contributed by 603 individuals. The Bank is accepting

PROGRESS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN COORG FROM TIME TO TIME.

No.	Particulars		1906	1914-15	1924-25	1934-35	1939-40	1946-47	1950-51	1955-56	1960-61	1962-63
1.	Number of Societies		6	33	188	265	322	359	371	437	444	450
2.	Membership	..	507	2,927	9,325	16,279	20,724	40,957	52,401	72,713	82,879	1,01,403
3.	Share Capital	Rs.	2,770	48,932	1,65,625	3,32,361	3,93,740	7,59,684	11,89,790	20,57,719	40,07,000	60,37,355
4.	Reserve Funds and other funds.	Rs.	940	18,932	1,06,241	3,42,964	4,33,499 51,164	6,04,444 2,03,471	8,97,110 3,95,628	21,84,456	21,98,000	39,05,135
5.	Deposits of Members	Rs.	3,350	18,076	31,495	66,000	66,425	5,27,664	8,43,439	15,66,000	23,06,000	24,55,000
6.	Deposits of non-members.	Rs	..	19,180	86,984	2,82,960	3,72,556	11,63,060	14,28,842	24,35,000	27,05,000	29,02,000
7.	Loans from Government.	Rs.	2,000	3,223	3,175	18,608	64,460	6,810	2,756	20,96,000	..	94,36,992
8.	Loans from Bank	Rs.	..	..	71,629	3,62,245	4,41,576	5,38,394	7.18,794	41,00,000	61,76,000	3,67,33,300
9.	Loans issued—											
	(a) Money	Rs.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	61,75,172	83,45,000	97,32,000
	(b) Grain in value	Rs.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,12,046	7,44,000	9,42,283
10.	Working Capital	Rs.	9,060	1,13,160	4,72,549	15,17,323	20,05,253	41,19,691	58.42,339	1,35,46,960	2,18,85,000	4,54,60,000

deposits both from societies and individuals. The deposits of societies amounted to Rs. 18,16,000 and from individuals to Rs. 10,60,000. During 1962-63, the Bank issued loan advances to societies amounting to Rs. 97,32,000 and recovered a sum of Rs. 79,69,000. The working capital of the Bank as on 30th June 1963 was Rs. 1,38,70,000. The following statement throws light on the progress of the Bank between 1950 and 1960.

TABLE—(*vide* Statement on page 218).

This bank is the central financing agency of the district for all co-operative credit societies affiliated to it. It also serves as a balancing centre, accepting the surplus funds of one institution and making them available to another which requires more capital. The object of this bank is to cater for the needs of the agriculturists of the district. Loans for improvement of lands, cultivation and for providing better marketing facilities are being sanctioned. To ease the burden of debt of the agriculturists, a section to advance long-term loans was created in 1951 and was later reorganised in 1955. Long-term loans repayable in ten annual instalments were given before 1955, but after 1955, they are made repayable in twenty annual instalments.

The bank undertakes all kinds of banking business. It accepts fixed deposits at rates of interest ranging from four per cent to four and half per cent and other deposits, *i.e.*, current accounts, savings bank accounts and call deposits with seven days' notice. The bank issues drafts on outside banks also. The bank is having a building of its own worth about Rs. 1,50,000.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF THE COORG DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE CENTRAL BANK LTD., BETWEEN 1950 AND 1960.

30th June of the year	*Member Societies*	*Indi-vidual members*	*Share amount (Societies)*	*Share amount (indi-vidual members)*	*Working capital*	*Gross profit*	*Net profit*	*Reserve fund*	*Loans to Societies*	*Loans to indi-vidual members*	*Demand*	*Collection*	*Overdue*	*Per-centage of recovery*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1950	345	633	11,213	6,791	13,06,255	48,260	7,417	56,697	4,27,794	51,434	4,12,305	3,95,650	16,355	96.00
1951	350	646	13,460	6,563	13,54,169	59,725	11,215	59,170	7,23,316	75,308	4,77,340	4,63,164	14,176	97.00
1952	366	676	14,338	6,595	14,10,703	67,544	14,587	62,908	9,56,488	85,613	7,38,988	7,09,866	29,122	95.07
1953	377	667	15,195	6,610	14,75,660	65,643	10,827	67,771	8,38,300	50,940	7,80,397	7,17,397	63,002	92.00
1954	376	694	1,63,140	6,590	16,96,818	90,134	21,463	71,380	14,82,776	46,177	7,80,074	6,84,586	95,488	87.80
1955	383	689	1,77,500	3,40,900*	26,56,895	1,15,977	32,833	78,535	15,11,858	47,642	13,37,124	11,74,906	1,62,218	87.86
1956	407	697	2,29,030	3,38,880*	41,03,515	1,37,744	33,769	86,430	26,03,455	52,884	14,99,638	14,33,406	66,232	95.62
1957	416	659	4,09,720	3,27,820*	52,42,373	2,22,639	82,985	94,872	34,27,534	47,821	17,47,791	16,48,159	99,632	94.30
1958	401	639	5,53,760	3,12,890*	57,28,160	2,70,812	95,899	94,872	37,24,281	36,542	38,17,373	35,09,820	3,07,553	91.90
1959	394	635	6,91,360	3,35,670*	61,39,254	2,77,323	72,011	1,42,353	65,40,339	80,938	46,26,986	41,48,690	4,78,296	89.70
1960	395	610	8,26,140	3,24,030*	83,08,770	3,13,292	61,684	1,65,612	71,53,655	46,505	59,97,397	50,46,593	9,50,804	84.12

* Includes Government contribution of Rs. 3,00,000.

There were in all nine urban and rural banks in the district in 1962-63 catering for the financial needs of the people of the district. The statement below gives the names, location and other details of these banks.

Other Co-operative Banks.

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Place	Date of starting	Number of members
1.	Mahadevpet Co-operative Bank, Ltd.	Mercara	19-12-1955	864
2.	Virajpet Co-operative Bank, Ltd.	Virajpet	14-12-1944	1,877
3.	Ammathi Co-operative Bank, Ltd.	Ammathi	23-3-1951	1,650
4.	Ponnampet Town Co-operative Bank, Ltd.	Ponnampet	3-6-1945	2,999
5.	Sreemangala Co-operative Bank, Ltd.	Hudikeri	31-3-1948	1,344
6.	Napoklu Co-operative Bank, Ltd.	Napoklu	21-5-1951	1,836
7.	Kushalnagar Co-operative Bank, Ltd.	Kushalnagar	8-11-1949	973
8.	Somwarpet Co-operative Bank, Ltd.	Somwarpet	2-11-1949	1,349
9.	Sanivarasanthe Co-operative Bank, Ltd.	Sanivarasanthe	23-5-1951	1,010

Land Mortgage Banks.

There were three land mortgage banks in the district, one each at Mercara, Somwarpet and Virajpet. There were 1,249 members on 30th June 1963 with a paid-up share-capital of Rs. 1,32,319. The loans issued by these banks during 1962-63 amounted to Rs. 5,26,300 and an amount of Rs. 85,672 was recovered, leaving a balance of Rs. 20,17,052, of which Rs. 62,540 was overdue. The banks have not received any outside deposits. The working capital of these banks was Rs. 21,82,214 and the owned-capital was Rs. 70,000.

Co-operative Societies.

There were in all 450 co-operative institutions (including the co-operative banks) in the district on 30th June 1963 and the categories are given below:—

1. District Co-operative Central Bank .. 1

2. Credit Societies :

A. (i) Agricultural--Limited :

(a) Large-sized 5

(b) Others .. .. ..

(ii) Agricultural—Unlimited :

(a) Large-sized 11

(b) Service Societies .. 62

(c) Others 116

B. Non-Agricultural—Limited :

(1) Urban Banks 8

(2) Others 12

No.	Type		Number
3.	Primary Land Mortgage Banks	..	3
4.	Marketing Societies	.. ..	23
5.	House Construction Societies	.. ..	5
6.	Farming Societies	.. ..	10
7.	Lift Irrigation Societies	.. ..	5
8.	Industrial :		
	(a) Weavers	.. ..	3
	(b) Others	.. ..	6
9.	Consumers' Stores Societies	.. ..	29
10.	Other Non-Credit Societies	.. ..	23
11.	Supervising Unions	.. ..	17
12.	Processing Societies	.. ..	1
13.	Grain Banks	.. ..	115
		Total ..	450

The details of prominent societies, namely the names, dates of starting and the locations are shown in a tabular form which is appended to this chapter.

Credit Societies.

On 30th June 1963, there were 325 credit societies in the district. These include agricultural credit societies, both limited and unlimited, primary land mortgage banks, grain banks and non-agricultural credit societies.

Large-sized Co-operative Societies.

There were five large-sized societies with limited liabilities and eleven large-sized societies with unlimited liability, in 1963, with a total membership of 9,000 and a paid-up share-capital of Rs. 6,24,630. The total deposits attracted by the societies amounted to Rs. 8,27,050 which consisted of Rs. 1,66,224 from societies, Rs. 2,88,832 from the members and Rs. 3,71,994 from the non-members. As on 30th June 1963, the total loans issued by the societies to their members amounted to Rs. 26,47,766, of which Rs. 24,02,066 were for productive and Rs. 2,45,700 for non-productive purposes. In 1963, the working capital of the societies was Rs. 33,24,499 and their owned funds were Rs. 9,29,900.

Service Societies.

There were 62 societies on 30th June 1963 with a paid-up share-capital of Rs. 3,53,605 and with a membership of 10,[illegible]. The total deposits stood at Rs. 3,34,585 and an amount of Rs. 13,56,085 was issued as loans. The working capital of these societies was Rs. 12,55,837 and the owned capital was Rs. 4,41,[illegible].

Small-sized Societies.

There were in all (on 30th June 1963) 116 small-sized societies with a total membership of 21,765 and with a paid-up share-capital of Rs. 10,97,243. The total deposits amounted to

Rs. 15,76,960. The total loans issued amounted to Rs. 49,74,138. The working capital and the owned capital stood at Rs. 70,77,341 and Rs. 7,55,000, respectively.

Grain Societies.

There were 115 grain societies (on 30th June 1963) in Coorg, and they are also called as 'grain banks'. These came into being under the successive plans, with a view to providing better marketing facilities and also to allowing agriculturists to take loans on the deposit of grains. The grain banks are also supplying credit in grains to the needy members. The paid-up share-capital and the total number of members (on 30th June 1963) stood at Rs. 8,91,167 and 14,315, respectively. These banks, during 1962-63, issued loans to their members amounting to Rs. 9,42,283. The owned capital and the working capital on 30th June 1963 were Rs. 14,99,368 and Rs. 12,74,928, respectively.

Marketing Co-operatives.

On 30th June 1963, there were 23 marketing co-operative institutions and these are described under "marketing co-operatives" in the "Trade and Commerce" section of this chapter.

Other Societies.

Among the other societies may be mentioned (on 30th June 1963) Consumers' Stores—29, Farming Societies—10, Lift Irrigation—5, Better-living Societies—3, House Construction—5, Industrial Societies—9 and Social Service Societies—14.

Co-operative Planning.

The co-operative movement in Coorg district has reached a fairly high standard and has covered almost every village in the district in one way or the other. There was an extension of the co-operative movement in the district with special emphasis on the reorganisation of the societies, the banks and the provision of storage facilities under the First Five-Year Plan. During the plan period, 44 societies of all types with an additional membership of 14,136 were established. In order to enable the marketing societies to handle the foodgrains, storage capacity was raised by 5,000 tons with an additional three storage godowns, apart from extension to the existing godowns. Under the Second Five-Year Plan also, importance was given to the reorganisation of the co-operative societies and banks and during this plan period, 20 additional societies were formed with an additional membership of 6,722. Two primary land mortgage banks were established against the target of three. The number of godowns constructed for large-sized societies and marketing societies during the plan period was 20. At the end of the Second Plan, 100 per cent of the villages and 87 per cent of the agricultural families were covered under co-operative credit.

During the Third Five-Year Plan, it is proposed to cover, with the provision of co-operative credit, 98 per cent of the rural population, *i.e.*, agricultural families in the district. An

all-round expansion of the movement has been planned to achieve the coverage, by continuing the schemes sanctioned during the Second Plan period with certain modifications in pursuance of the new co-operative policy. The main aspects of co-operative development on which emphasis has been laid by the National Development Council are credit, marketing and processing. A total provision of Rs. 6.98 lakhs is proposed in the Third Five-Year Plan period for the various schemes under the co-operative movement.

Stock Exchanges.

There are no stock-exchanges in the district.

State Assistance to Industrial Development.

The Mysore State Aid to Industries Act which was promulgated as Act XX of 1951 was made applicable to the district of Coorg in 1956 and between 1956-57 and 1957-58, an amount of Rs. 1,29,000 was given as loan to 152 individuals for the development of industries in the district. Besides this, liberal loans are given under the community development movement by the concerned blocks. Financial and technical aid given to individual enterprises by the Government has been narrated in the course of the chapter on "Industries". Besides all these, the State Finance Corporation has been advancing liberal loans through the Mysore Central Co-operative Rural Industrial Financing Bank, Ltd., Bangalore, which have been disbursed to individual entrepreneurs in the district through the local industrial societies. During 1961-62, 29 small industrial units received loans amounting to Rs. 10,100. The following is the statement showing the details of the same.

	Name of the Industry.	*No. of Units*	*Loans issued*
			Rs.
1.	Tailoring ..	15	4,750
2.	Goldsmithy ..	4	2,000
3.	Bamboo Works ..	2	350
4.	Carpentry ..	3	1,200
5.	Brass and Copper Works	1	500
6.	Shoe-making ..	1	500
7.	Cane Works ..	1	300
8.	Smithy ..	2	500
	Total ..	29	10,100

Currency and Coinage.

The Government of Coorg under the Rajas had no mint, and the coins which were in circulation in the adjoining Mysore State and the West Coast were circulating in the area. These foreign coins were exchanged at the prevailing rates then current in the

area. Accounts were kept in Sultanee or Bahaduri pagodas, the Surat Rupee, Kantiraya or gold fanams (coined and current in Malayalam), and Duddus and cash (the two latter of copper); no smaller coins were in circulation. Under British administration, these coins ceased to be legal tender and the British Indian coins were introduced for all purposes of transaction. The most recent currency reform is the introduction of decimal coinage.

B—Trade and Commerce

Course of Trade.

In contrast with the present day advantages of modern transport, easy road communications and development of villages and towns, Coorg in the old days had very restricted facilities for the movement of trade. It is pertinent here to quote the astute observations of Lt. Connor who, writing in 1817, described the course of trade thus : " Broken up by hills, covered with woods, having but indifferent roads and no large towns, Coorg holds out but few temptations to an extensive inter-course with its neighbours. The superior advantages it enjoys for the production of rice render it however in some measure the granary of the countries in its vicinity ".[1] Mr. Lewis Rice who compiled the Coorg Gazetteer in 1878 says that except as regards roads, the description of Lt. Connor held good but the extensive cultivation of coffee introduced an additional commodity which formed the most valuable staple of commercial transaction. Towards the close of the last century the only exports from Coorg were cardamom, timber, a small quantity of paddy and oranges. These were exported to Mangalore, Cannanore and Tellicherry on the west coast. In the north and east of Coorg, the trade was through Mysore. From the district headquarters town of Mercara, the trade flowed both west and east, either to Mangalore or to Mysore and Bangalore. One difficulty in the flow of trade with the west coast was that goods had to be moved by the beginning of June because of the heavy monsoon. At that time, Coorg had to import most of its consumer goods. Apart from rice and arrack, almost every article of food and clothing had to be brought from outside. The needs of Coorg in respect of pulses, cloth, oil, ghee, spices, sugar, poultry, tobacco, cattle and sheep, and hardware were met from Mysore. Coconut, salt, dried fish, hardware, cloth, sugar and areca used to be imported from the west coast. The old-time trade passed through some important roads like the Hunsur-Mercara Road, Sampaje Ghat Road to Mangalore, and the Ane Chaukur Road to Cannanore through the Periambadi Ghat.

After the introduction of railways in the latter part of the last century both in Mysore and on the west coast, there was close proximity of railway stations to the land-locked area of Coorg.

1. Lewis Rice, Mysore and Coorg, Vol. III, 1878, p. 306.

The nearest railway stations to Mercara were Mysore (75 miles), Tellicherry (60 miles), Cannanore (65 miles) and Mangalore (81 miles). Though there are several streams and rivers, there is no water communication in Coorg. Good roads are always a prerequisite for an easy flow of trade. Previous to the occupation of the country by the British Government in 1834, there were no roads fit for wheeled carriages and scarcely any fit for bullocks, it having been part of the policy of the Rajas to render their country as inaccessible as possible. Again, Lt. Connor's observations about the obstacles to trade in those days are of interest: "Carriage so necessary to the existence of trade is attended with numerous impediments; roads of the first necessity to its extension, and indeed a great means of improvement in every respect are scarcely passable, and tend to render transport difficult, both as to internal and external circulation; a large portion of the population is averse to trade, fixed to the spot they cultivate, they know but little of its activity or inter-course, and feel neither its interests nor necessities. The few wants arising from the social connections which such a state of society render indispensable, are easily supplied; satisfied with the produce of their soil, which gives them no variety of superfluities to dispose of, they do not possess the means to procure, nor have they the taste how to enjoy the foreign commodities. The monopolising spirit of the chief adds to those natural obstacles which oppose an extended commerce, the few more precious articles of merchandize being entirely engrossed by him ".[1]

Development of Trade.

The development of trade was slow before the Britishers took over. But it is on record that principal markets existed even in the days when road communications were scarce. From the hukumnama published in 1811, it is disclosed that Virajpet and Somwarpet were the chief markets, while others of less importance were situated at the headquarters of each nad. According to Lt. Connor's memoirs (1817), weekly fairs are said to have been held at Kodlipet (Sunday), Sanivarasanthe (Saturday) Ramaswami Kanive (Wednesday), Somwarpet (Monday), Mercara (Friday), and Virajpet (Friday). All these fairs functioned as markets from which rice was exported or where it was exchanged for dry grains or cloth brought from the neighbouring districts of Mysore or the west coast. Fraserpet (Kushalnagar) became a market town in 1834 soon after the advent of the British Government but there were no other additions until after 1880. Later on, markets began to operate at Gonikoppal (Sunday), Ponnampet (Monday), Siddapur (Sunday), Ammathi (Tuesday), Suntikoppa (Sunday), Murnad (Thursday), and Jambur (Thursday). In 1885, a market started functioning at Napoklu but was not patronised and it was closed in 1892.

1. Lt. Connor—Memoir of the Codagu Survey—Koorg, Part II, 1817, p. 57.

These weekly markets are in no way different from the pattern of shandies run elsewhere, where fairly large commercial transactions take place. It is customary in these markets to sell ragi, gram, salt, fish, vegetables, fruits, curry stuff, glass bangles, cloth and other articles of daily necessity. Grain merchants usually have their headquarters in the vicinity of these markets and they often perambulate among the villages and buy direct from the raiyats, deducting from the price paid, the cost of transporting the grain to the nearest market town. The weekly markets of importance to the raiyats are Gonikoppal and Siddapur where ploughing cattle are brought for sale, but all the markets are of use to the general public, especially to coffee estate labourers for purchasing the weekly provisions.

Exports and Imports

From time immemorial, rice was the principal food commodity which was exported outside. Numerous valleys throughout the land have, from ancient times, yielded an unfailing supply of rice every year for home consumption and for exportation to outside places, particularly to Malabar, Mysore and South Kanara. Coorg has always been a surplus district in rice and rice not needed for home consumption is being exported to neighbouring districts. Lt. Connor writes "Rice, the principal product of the country is its chief export; as far as I have been able to learn, about fifty thousand bullock loads of it are yearly exported into Mysore, but the largest quantity goes to Malabar and Kanara. The extent of country from Mangalore to Tellicherry receives a constant supply. Fifty thousand bullock loads are annually exported to each of these places and almost all this is the property of private individuals. Salt and money are taken generally in return". In the wars against Tippu Sultan, Doddavirarajendra supplied to the Bombay armies which passed through Coorg, 40,000 bhutties (80 seers per bhutty) of rice at Virajpet. Dr. Buchanan writes in 1801, that annually 5 to 6 thousand ox-loads of rice, each load containing about 182 lbs., passed the custom-house of Periyapatna from Coorg. In return, they brought dry grains, cloth, ghee, oil, jaggery, garlic, betel leaf, iron and steel, blankets and tamarind. It is estimated now that the exportable surplus of rice per year from Coorg is about 15,000 tons. During 1962-63, it was estimated that about 40,000 tons of rice were produced in Coorg. The rice cultivated throughout Coorg and in general use is the large grained *Doddabatta*. A finer and more palatable kind is the small rice, *Sannabatta*, and a red variety, the *kesari*. The rice grown in Coorg is mostly of a coarse variety but the people down the ghats relish it and this accounts for the large exports. The rice trade is brisk from the time of the harvest, *i.e.*, November or beginning of December up to the end of January.

The next important crop, the cultivation of which has brought prosperity to Coorg, is coffee. Between 1874 and 1883, coffee was in a flourishing state in the district and the quantity exported out

of the country during 1874-75 was 4,234 tons of an estimated value of Rs. 27,10,216. After the First World War, the price of coffee fell suddenly and many planters had to abandon their estates. In 1939 also, when the Second World War broke out, foreign market for Indian coffee was cut off and a slump set in. In order to stabilise the coffee prices and to control quantities for export and internal consumption, the Government of India passed the Coffee Market Expansion Act and constituted the India Coffee Board with Bangalore as its headquarters. The Coffee Board is an organisation consisting of the representatives of the growers, traders, plantation workers, coffee consumers and Governments of States where coffee is grown. Its predecessor body was the Indian Coffee Market Expansion Board which was incorporated by an ordinance in 1940 on the unanimous recommendation of all sections of the industry. At that time, the industry was threatened with an unprecedented crisis owing to the outbreak of World War II and the consequent loss of its then vital markets in Europe. There was a slump in coffee prices and the internal demand was too small to absorb the surplus production. The ordinance was passed with the main object of assisting the industry by regulating the export of coffee from and the sale of coffee in India and by other means. The control over the marketing of coffee was vested with the Indian Coffee Market Expansion Board. The Indian Coffee Market Expansion Ordinance was replaced by the Coffee Market Expansion Act (VII of 1942), which has been now amended with effect from 1st August 1955, and is now called the Coffee Act (VII of 1942). The amended Act provides for the development of the industry under the control of the Union Government. In addition to the promotion of sale and consumption of coffee in India and elsewhere and the development of cultural and technological research in respect of coffee production, the Act provides for financial assistance to coffee growers to improve their estates, and to secure better working conditions and amenities for workers.

The total production of coffee for 1958-59 was about 15,000 tons, the same for 1954-55 being 9,525 tons. The total production of coffee in India for 1958-59 was 46,945 tons of which Coorg's share was about 15,000 tons. It is estimated that during 1962-63 about 16,000 tons of coffee were produced in the district of Coorg.

The next important commodity which is exported outside the district is cardamom. It is grown in marshy jungles and the thickly wooded slopes, and declivities of the mountains. Dr. Moegling has observed among other things, in his "Coorg Memoirs" published in 1855, that " a good garden is a mine to its possessors. Some Nalknad families gather twenty and thirty maunds annually, worth 600—1,000 rupees. A few houses make fifty and sixty maunds. At the time of the cardamom harvest, Mapla traders will set out for the western districts with a good stock of bright

handkerchiefs and other articles attractive to the Coorg women and maidens and many a good bargain is made with the produce of Manchester or Birmingham for spicy cardamoms sprung up in Coorg glens, never penetrated by the sun's ray during the bright winter or the cloudy monsoon ". Towards the end of the last century, the price of cardamom had fallen to such an extent that it scarcely paid the expenses to collect the berries and many cardamom growers had become impoverished. In the thirties of this century also, the cardamom growers had to face depression in prices. They had no organisation to get easy credit or to stabilise prices by collecting cardamom and marketing it in planned stages. To obviate these difficulties and to assist the cardamom growers, the Coorg Cardamom Co-operative Marketing Society was started at Mercara in 1939. This society is handling about 60 per cent of the cardamom produced in Coorg. The total cardamom production during 1958-59 was about 24,000 maunds. During 1962-63, the production of the same was estimated at 40,000 maunds, of which about 15,000 maunds were handled by the Coorg Cardamom Marketing Co-operative Society, Mercara. The cardamom growers are urging the Government to constitute a statutory body like the India Coffee Board and the Tea Board for cardamom in order to collect all the cardamom grown in the country through one agency, and to stabilise the prices. Cardamoms grown in Coorg are sent to the west coast ports from where they are sent abroad. Cardamoms are also purchased by some of the wealthy merchants of Tellicherry and are transported from Coorg at their own cost. The two spices grown in Coorg, *viz.*, cardamom and pepper, occupy an important place in the agricultural economy of the area and rank amongst the natural productions of the soil, holding the pride of place as to quality.

Pepper is the next important article among the exports of the district. Almost the whole of the pepper produced in Coorg is sent to the west coast for being shipped from there and also for local consumption in South Kanara and Kerala. The annual production of pepper in Coorg is estimated at about 10,000 maunds (of 28 lbs). The quantity produced during 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59 and 1959-60 was 9,282 maunds, 9,320 maunds, 8,151 maunds and 6,850 maunds respectively.[1]

Coorg oranges are well-known outside and the annual production of oranges in the district is about 2,000 lorry loads. Most of the orange-growers lease their orange crop annually to some local dealers to save the trouble of guarding the crop from crows and pilferers and of marketing it. Therefore, the price of oranges varies from year to year. Coorg oranges are available for sale from the middle of December to the end of April. During the peak season, from January to March, usually about 15 to 20 lorry loads of oranges are sent to Calicut daily, as also to

1. Survey Report on the marketing of pepper in Mysore State. 1962.

Tellicherry which is another exporting centre for the Coorg oranges. A major portion of the crop is sent to Calicut and Tellicherry for export every year and a small portion of it is also received in Mysore and Bangalore.

Among the other commodities exported are timber, honey and rubber.

The imports of Coorg are mostly limited to consumer goods. In this category come oils, condiments, textile goods, salt, salt-fish, jaggery, sugar and coconuts. The internal trade is carried on through the medium of periodical markets. The people bring produce of their farms and woods—rice, butter, ghee, honey, grain, poultry, fruits and vegetables of all kinds and a variety of condiments much used in their diet; and receive in exchange money which is again exchanged for steel, iron, and the various implements required in husbandry, coarse cotton cloth, gunnies, kamblies (blankets) and the dry-grains which are mostly imported from the old Mysore area. The poorer inhabitants generally sell one commodity to buy another. The remarks on the commerce of Coorg made by Lt. Connor in 1817 hold good to some extent even to-day, except that there is increasing attraction from outside for Coorg products like coffee, cardamom and oranges. He says: "The commerce of this principality is very confined, more so than perhaps would be inferred, from its extent; there is no carrying trade, indeed, it is merely limited to exchanges, the produce of their lands and some exotic superfluities, being given for such domestic necessaries as the people do not possess or cannot manufacture. The imports for this purpose are on a very limited scale".[1]

How far the balance of trade may be in favour of or against Coorg, it is difficult to say, as information from which conclusions on the subject might be drawn is not available. It may, however, be remarked that admitting no luxuries or comforts, the wants of the people are confined within a narrow compass; and the produce of their fields giving them some superfluities for which they have a ready sale, it appears probable that the balance of trade is not against them.

Trade Centres.

The chief trade centres are Virajpet, Mercara, Somwarpet and Ponnampet. As these are fairly big towns in the district, several mandies (godowns) have started functioning. The bazaar streets at these places have all the articles of consumption for trade. The weekly markets are the other trade centres in Coorg where the bulk of the estate labour buy their goods. As the area has a heavy rainfall for at least four months, trade becomes rather

1. Lt. Connor—Memoir of the Codagu Survey—Koorg, Part II, 1817, p. 57.

dull during that period. The biggest wholesale trade centre for oranges is Pollibetta, from where two-thirds of the oranges grown in Coorg are marketed. In all urban areas, retail shops provide all the essential articles for home consumption.

Village Shop-keepers.

Village shop-keepers occupy an important place in the organisation of trade in rural areas of the district. Almost every village has one or more shop-keepers who provide its inhabitants with their day-to-day necessities.

Shops registered under the Mysore Sales-Tax Act, 1957.

Under this Act, every dealer whose total turnover in any year is not less than seven thousand and five hundred rupees and every dealer who is registered under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 (Central Act 74 of 1956), whatever may the quantum of his total turnover in any year, should register his name. During 1960-61, the shops registered under the said Act in the district were 851. The total number of registrations in the district in November 1961 was 1,027 and the total gross turnover was estimated at Rs. 1,12,74,000. Since the minimum turnover fixed for an year is Rs. 7,500 and since the turnover of most of the retail shops in the district does not reach the minimum prescribed for registration under the Act, a considerable number of them do not come under the scope of the Act. The estimated number of shops in the district which fall outside the scope of the Sales Tax Act is 650. The following statement compiled from the returns under the Mysore Sales Tax Act, 1957, gives an idea of the volume of business done by some of the shop-keepers in the district (who are registered shop-keepers under the Act) for the year 1960-61.

Taluk		*Food Stuffs*		*Clothing and other consumer goods*		*Building materials*	
		Nos.	*Rupees*	*Nos.*	*Rupees*	*Nos.*	*Rupees*
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Mercara	..	151	18,94,600	76	8,84,200	..	..
Virajpet	..	194	29,45,600	101	8,85,800	2	32,300
Somwarpet	..	185	17,28,900	63	7,26,900	.	..
Total	..	480	65.69,100	240	24,96,900	2	32,300

Taluk		*Transport vehicles goods*		*Miscellaneous*		*Total*	
		Nos.	*Rupees*	*Nos.*	*Rupees*	*Nos.*	*Rupees*
		8	9	10	11	12	13
Mercara	..	1	9,500	41	7,02,200	269	34,90.500
Virajpet	..	1	2,700	64	8,98,800	362	47,65,200
Somwarpet	..	..	..	22	3,12,500	220	27,68,300
Total	..	2	12,200	127	19,13,500	851	1,10,24,909

Regulated Markets.

There are at present no regulated markets in the district. Under the marketing programme under the Third-Five-Year Plan, there is a proposal to start one regulated market at Mercara and for this purpose, an amount of Rs. 0.54 lakh has been kept apart. There is also a proposal to establish one live-stock market at Mercara and a financial allocation of Rs. 0.30 lakh has been made under the Third Plan for this purpose.

Fairs and festivals.

The fairs of the district are chiefly of a religious character, generally held once a year. They attract the population of the immediate neighbourhood. These fairs last for three or four days and the more prominent ones for a week. There are in all about 30 such fairs and festivals in the district. Of these, the following are the three most prominent cattle fairs in the district :—

	Names of Cattle fairs	*Place*	*Period*	*Approximate attendance of persons*	*Approximate number of cattle*
	1	2	3	4	5
1.	Sri Nandeeswara Cattle Fair.	Kodlipet	30th Jan. to 5th Feb.	2,000	2,500
2.	Sri Jagadeva Gurugala Jatra.	Sanivara-santhe.	24th Dec. to 1st Jan.	3,000	8,000
3.	Sri Ganapathi Temple Cattle Fair.	Kushal-nagar.	28th Feb. to 5th March.	2,000	2,500

The biggest cattle fair is held in Sanivarasanthe. The other cattle fairs which are not very big are held at Keregenalli and Santhalli villages in Sanivarasanthe hobli, Mullusoge and Kaniva villages in Kushalnagar hobli and Gonikoppal in Virajpet taluk.

Important festivals exclusively observed in Coorg are "Kedmuhurta", "Cauvery Sankramana' and 'Huttari' In addition to these three main festivals, festivals are also celebrated in the temple of the village deity in almost every village at different times of the year and in different forms. In all these festivals, the retail business is more brisk than in the usual markets.

Shandies

The "Shandies' are of ancient origin and are a social concomitant of the village system; wherever there was need for the exchange of surplus commodities, a shandy came into being. These places of exchange became gradually fixed and people gathered in the same place for buying and selling. The village shandies helped a good deal in the sale of village produce and the weekly markets are places of brisk trade where business of all kinds is transacted. They perform the dual function of helping the raiyat to buy his needs and of enabling him to

dispose of his surplus. There are about 20 shandies in the district and the most important of them are held in Mercara (Friday), Suntikoppa (Sunday), Virajpet (Wednesday), Gonikoppal (Sunday), Somwarpet (Monday), and Siddapur (Sunday). Other shandies of less importance are held in Sanivarasanthe (Saturday), Murnad (Thursday), Hudikeri (Monday), Kutta (Tuesday), Madapur (Saturday) and Kushalnagar (Tuesday).

Co-operative Marketing.

As recommended by the Rural Credit Survey Report in 1954, development of co-operative marketing was given a place of special importance in the co-operative schemes of the Five-Year Plans. There were in April 1964, 23 marketing societies organised in the district, of which one is a central marketing federation and the remaining 22 are primary marketing societies. These marketing institutions are spread in all parts of the district; four are in Somwarpet taluk, eight in Mercara taluk and eleven in Virajpet taluk. These marketing societies are intended to serve as distributors of articles required by cultivators for agricultural production and also for sale of agricultural produce on terms favourable to the farmer. The marketing societies in Coorg deal with cardamom, oranges, paddy, arecanuts and other articles. The marketing federation deals in manures, cement, sugar, iron and steel implements and other articles. The societies advance loans on the pledge of the produce of members and also provide godown facilities. The total advances made by these societies during 1962-63 amounted to Rs. 26,12,888. The location of each of the marketing societies is indicated below talukwise.

Sl No.	*Name of the Marketing Society*	*Location*
	Somwarpet Taluk	
1.	Kodlipet Co-operative Marketing Society ..	Kodlipet
2.	Sanivarasanthe Co-operative Marketing Society ..	Sanivarasanthe
3.	Kushalnagar Co-operative Marketing Society ..	Kushalnagar
4.	Somwarpet Co-operative Marketing Society ..	Somwarpet
	Mercara Taluk	
1.	Coorg District Cardamom Co-operative Marketing Society	Mercara
2.	Bengunad Co-operative Marketing Society .	Kargunda
3.	Sri Cauvery Cardamom Co-operative Marketing Society	Bhagamandala
4.	Igguthappa Co-operative Marketing Society ..	Kakkabe
5.	Jai Hind Areca Co-operative Marketing Society ..	Peraje
6.	Coorg Progressive Bee-Keepers' Co-operative Marketing Society	Bhagamandala
7.	Murnad Co-operative Marketing Society ..	Murnad
8.	Kadeyatnad Co-operative Marketing Society ..	Parane

Virajpet Taluk

1.	Coorg District Co-operative Marketing Federation ..	Virajpet
2.	Coorg Honey and Wax Produce Co-operative Society	Virajpet
3.	Virajpet Marketing Co-operative Society ..	Virajpet
4.	Coorg Orange Growers' Marketing Co-operative Society	Pollibetta
5.	Ammathi Marketing Co-operative Society ..	Ammathi
6.	Sri Ganesh Marketing Co-operative Society ..	Hathur
7.	Gonikoppal Marketing Co-operative Society ..	Gonikoppal
8.	Ponnampet Marketing Co-operative Society ..	Ponnampet
9.	Balele Marketing Co-operative Society ..	Balele
10.	Hudikeri Marketing Co-operative Society ..	Hudikeri
11.	Srimangala Marketing Co-operative Society ..	Srimangala

The activities of the prominent marketing societies are described below.

The Coorg Provincial Co-operative Marketing Federation, Ltd., Virajpet.

This marketing federation started functioning with effect from 6th April 1943 having the whole of the district of Coorg as its area of operation. The main objects of this institution are (i) to arrange for the sale of agricultural produce of the members to the best advantage, (ii) to acquire and maintain godowns and warehouses and sale depots, (iii) to undertake processing activities of agricultural produce, (iv) to manufacture agricultural implements and such other necessaries of the agricultural industry, (v) to act as agents of the Government or any other institution for procurement, supply, distribution and production of agricultural implements and chemical fertilisers and (vi) to promote marketing by generally co-ordinating the activities of the affiliated societies and by providing funds necessary for business. The authorised share-capital of this institution during 1963-64 was Rs. 1,00,000 made up of 700 shares of Rs. 100 each, 600 shares of Rs. 25 each, and 1,500 shares of Rs. 10 each. Besides, the State Government have contributed Rs. 20,000 towards processing activities and a subsidy of Rs. 2,500 towards managerial costs. This institution had in 1963-64, 201 members comprising 164 individuals, 36 societies and the Government. The statement below shows the comparative position of the marketing federation between 1958-59 and 1962-63.

			1958–59	1959–60	1960–61	1961–62	1962–63
Membership		..	205	205	203	201	201
Share Capital	Rs.	..	43,005	43,005	42,985	32,165	32,955
Bank Loan	Rs.	..	2,96,306	2,21,843	1,48,447	99,492	91,660
Purchases	Rs.	..	14,08,000	18,44,000	22,72,000	8,35,900	5,88,609
Sales	Rs.	..	13,00,000	19,51,000	24,04,000	8,70,000	7,28,990
Gross Profit	Rs.	..	33,800	50,300	67,600	57,209	68,800
Net Profit	Rs.	..	15,946	21,808	40,240	21,900	20,160
Reserve Fund	Rs.	..	40,593	45,373	56,965	56,965	63,992
Building Fund	Rs.	..	42,964	46,622	62,387	62,387	62,387

This marketing federation is supplying iron and steel, cement, sugar, manures and such other articles to agriculturists and planters of Coorg at reasonable prices. The federation is doing the manure-mixing work for the last three years and on an average, about 1,000 tons per year are manufactured and distributed. According to the new set-up sponsored by the Government, this federation is the sole agent for the State Co-operative Marketing Society, Ltd., Bangalore, for Coorg district for dealing in chemical manures. Thus, the State Marketing Society has appointed this society (federation) as the clearing agent for the district. It co-ordinates the activities of all primary co-operative marketing societies and caters to the needs of all agriculturists in manure in general and in the matter of distribution of controlled imported commodities in particular.

The Coorg District Cardamom Co-operative Marketing Society, Ltd., Mercara.

This society which was registered in 1939 has jurisdiction over the entire district. It deals only in cardamom. The society conducts auction sales every week by call system and the goods are given to the highest bidder. It has a branch as Sakleshpur in Hassan district where it also deals in cardamom. The following are the statistics indicating the progress of the society from 1951-52 to 1962-63.

TABLE—(*vide* Statement on page 235)

The Coorg Orange Growers' Co-operative Society Ltd., Pollibetta.

This society was organised during the year 1942. It had in 1963-64 more than 80 per cent of the growers in the district as members numbering 740 with a share capital of Rs. 1,00,000. The society deals with collection and marketing of oranges and the following statement shows the progress from 1942-43 to 1962-63.

Year		*Membership*	*Share Capital*	*Lorry loads handled*	*Members co-operated*	*Net profit*
			Rs.			Rs.
1942-43	..	167	2,471	32	..	1,704
1943-44	..	241	3,552	54	20	7,657
1944-45	..	252	3,949	85	38	9,460
1945-46	..	283	4,327	128	40	18,476
1946-47	..	319	6,077	218	49	19,260
1947-48	..	347	6,764	122	57	5,918
1948-49	..	395	7,260	375	77	15.315
1949-50	..	424	9,631	178	58	6,917
1950-51	..	443	10,310	164	73	Loss
1951-52	..	454	10,723	362	95	18,955
1952-53	..	464	10,896	159	79	1,146
1953-54	..	472	11,004	301	82	6,640
1954-55	..	478	11,379	117	72	9,436

Year		Membership	Share Capital	Lorry loads handled	Members co-operated	Net profit
			Rs.			Rs.
1955-56	..	401	11,384	160	66	3,019
1956-57	..	510	35,950	153	72	4,842
1957-58	.	542	36,285	103	102	5,462
1958-59	..	590	37,625	220	159	9,911
1959-60	..	620	50,819	163	142	15,105
1960-61	..	650	65,118	390	171	9,647
1961-62	..	712	66,865	175	191	879
1962-63	..	740	1,00,000	305	219	8,081

In addition to marketing of Coorg oranges, this society sells graded eggs and Coorg honey all through the year and handles Mysore mangoes, grapes, pears and apples during the season. It is hoped that this society will effectively function as a growers' co-operative concern to deal in all kinds of fruits, and to minimise wastage on cost of distribution by systematic supply of fruits fresh from the orchards to the consumers in the market.

The Coorg Cardamom Co-operative Marketing Society, Ltd., Mercara, Coorg—Progress Chart for 12 years.

Year	*Membership*	*Share Capital*	*Cardamom handled*	*Cardamom turnover*	*Manure and other supplies*	*Working Capital*	*Produce loans*	*Net Profit*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Kg	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1951–52	417	9,010	22,708	4,10,000	..	51,000	2,17,000	1,614
1952–53	532	12,533	59,132	6,50,000	..	67,500	3,60,000	4,780
1953–54	566	13,528	33,731	4,16,500	..	1,20,000	2,90,000	2,976
1954–55	677	16,713	34,354	6,76,900	..	1,56,000	4,82,000	2,374
1955–56	776	18,189	1,08,020	18,06,400	..	2,09,900	11,80,000	11,171
1956–57	868	62,629	1,39,700	32,58,000	..	5,40,000	12,21,000	21,600
1957–58	968	80,004	1,62,400	23,99,000	1,27,000	7,00,000	15,00,000	19,462
1958–59	1,053	93,864	1,14,300	18,48,000	92,000	8,00,000	11,25,000	8,863
1959–60	1,357	1,35,069	1,62,400	26,46,000	1,22,000	12,32,500	23,21,500	1,989
1960–61	1,902	1,91,149	2,17,170	31,01,700	1,34,000	16,20,000	18,31,000	30,000
1961–62	2,227	2,10,119	2,41,908	30,69,705	83,520	9,93,207	10,06,507	13,683
1962–63	3,042	2,45,579	1,77,563	17,67,056	87,249	15,85,161	10,63,178	6,232

Coorg Honey and Wax Producers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Virajpet.

This society which started functioning from 1936 with only 53 members and a share capital of Rs. 314 has done very good work and in 1964, it had 724 members with a share capital of Rs. 15,067. The total assets of this society in 1963 were about Rs. 2,00,000. The statement below relates to the progress of the society from its inception to the year 1964.

Year	*Share Capital*	*Sale of honey*	*Sale of Bees Wax*	*Total Turn-over* *	*Net Profits*
	Rs.	lbs.	lbs.	Rs.	Rs.
1936 ..	314	..	..	2,939	..
1937 ..	821	1,067	415	13,618	1,161
1938 ..	1,123	8,893	334	25,748	1,946
1939 ..	1,398	21,335	42	40,125	922
1940 ..	1,612	19,586	284	48,106	..
1941 ..	2,245	25,935	1,992	39,729	3,994
1942 ..	3,230	18,073	975	40,811	4,067
1943 ..	6,726	27,679	1,148	43,016	8,948
1944 ..	6,006	1,702	381	37,292	759
1945 ..	7,604	7,837	859	50,279	1,862
1946 ..	8,710	12,940	980	54,507	8,119
1947 ..	9,509	12,019	761	54.379	4,094
1948 ..	9,889	15,005	421	94,659	5,816
1949 ..	11,289	26,717	887	1,28,213	10,942
1950 ..	12,560	10,122	751	1,16,321	1,923
1951 ..	13,147	35,139	1,016	1,82,388	9,365
1952 ..	13,396	32,433	970	1,44,096	10,000
1953	13,761	32,248	1,715	1,33,432	14,362
1954 ..	14,487	23,195	1,579	1,39,017	4,923
1955 ..	15,403	36,075	3,143	1,27,444	10,671
1956 ..	15,583	35,004	1,719	1,37,686	13,290
1957 ..	16,783	11,881	3,067	1,32.315	..
1958 ..	16,743	11,661	1,897	2,69,690	8,895
1959 ..	16,903	54,214	3,451	4,18,358	..
1960 ..	17.053	1,03,678	1,957	4,73,092	14,243
1961 ..	15,097	86,158	1,821	5,64,765	17,293
1962 ..	15.057	60,353	1,998	4,32,540	4,888
1963 ..	14,897	40,744	1,900	6,38,509	16,859
1964 ..	15,067	49,831	3,351	7,09,282	..

* The turnover includes Bank transactions also.

This society has established a good market for Coorg honey all over India. It has reputed agents for the sale of Coorg honey in big cities like Madras, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Bombay, Allahabad, New Delhi and Ahmedabad.

This society which started functioning from 1954 was formed exclusively to encourage production of extracted honey through modern box-hives and to provide a marketing organisation for all the extracted honey produced in the district. The following is the statement indicating the progress of the society from 1954-55 to 1962-63.

Coorg Progressive Bee-keepers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Bhagamandala.

Year		*Number of members*	*Share Capital*	*Profit*	*Circulating capital*	*Honey collected in lbs.*
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1954-55	..	479	4,780	413	11,960	190
1955-56	..	797	9,280	5,190	1,65,534	7,820
1956-57	..	952	10,840	3,512	3,21,830	18,110
1957-58	...	1,075	11,920	10,842	3,09,651	53,100
1958-59	...	1,099	12,300	12,049	3,42,424	87,110
1959-60	...	1,105	12,329	...	3,36,219	90,009
1960-61	...	1,120	12,467	8,912	3,04,000	1,21,000
1961-62	...	1,123	12,497	6,722	3,30,000	1,15,000
1962-63	...	1,141	12,669	15,150	3,13,000	1,37,500

Coffee is one of the important crops in the district of Coorg and since the last two decades, there has been an increase of small growers, their number in the district being estimated at 8,000. The Coorg Coffee Growers' Co-operative Society, Limited, Mercara, was organised with the object of rendering financial aid at reasonable rates of interest to coffee growers. This society started functioning from 1956. It had 2,544 members with paid-up share capital of Rs. 3,55,738 during 1961-62 as against a membership of 1,492 with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 1,59,320 in 1958-59.

The Coorg Coffee Growers' Co-operative Society.

This society being the agent of the Coffee Board is financed by it with interest-free pool funds to purchase coffee. It collects coffee from growers and has established nine collecting depots at Kutta, Ponnampet, Gonikoppal, Virajpet, Ammathi, Cheyyandane, Napoklu, Murnad and Mercara. The difficulties in transporting coffee to distant places experienced by the growers is no longer there since the introduction of these collecting depots at various centres. The following is the statement of progress indicating the quantity of coffee collected by the various coffee-collecting depots in Coorg district from 1956-57 to 1963-64 and its value.

PROGRESS OF THE COFFEE-COLLECTING DEPOTS IN COORG DISTRICT

Sl. No.	Place of Coffee Collection Depot	1956-57			1957-58			1958-59			1959-60		
		Quantity in tons	Value in rupees		Quantity in tons	Value in rupees		Quantity in tons	Value in rupees		Quantity in tons	Value in rupees	
	1	2	3		4	5		6	7		8	9	
			Rs.	P.		Rs.	P.		Rs.	P.		Rs.	P.
1.	Kutta	3.40	6,500	27	47.90	94,560	65	105.00	2,22,698	92	229.60	4,99,269	27
2.	Ponnampet	..	..		12.90	24,560	35	38.30	81,700	80	72.60	1,57,904	57
3.	Gonikoppal	..	..		..	..		56.40	1,27,210	83	110.00	2,38,668	16
4.	Ammathi	..	..		..	..		46.70	1,00,322	20	77.70	1,72,171	51
5.	Virajpet	..	..		..	..		37.00	80,651	46	88.00	1,65,055	23
6.	Cheyyandane	..	..		15.20	31,265	67	56.40	1,21,777	97	71.70	1,59,271	59
7.	Napoklu	..	..			..		128.40	2,80,281	66	178.00	3,94,574	50
8.	Murnad	..	..		8.20	16,962	33	54.20	1,17,424	04	104.00	2,31,694	25
9.	Mercara	..	..		..	..		..	..		4.70	11,057	52
	Total	3.40	6,500	27	84.20	1,67,349	00	524.40	11,33,489	75	931.50	20,49,866	60

PROGRESS OF THE COFFEE-COLLECTING DEPOTS IN COORG DISTRICT—*contd.*

Sl. No.	Place of Coffee Collection Depot	1960-61 Quantity in tons	1960-61 Value in rupees		1961-62 Quantity in tons	1961-62 Value in rupees		1962-63 Quantity in tons	1962-63 Value in rupees		1963-64 Quantity in tons	1963-64 Value in rupees	
		10	11		12	13		14	15		16	17	
			Rs.	P.		Rs.	P.		Rs.	P.		Rs.	P.
1.	Kutta ..	313.8	6,35,718	86	258.64	5,05,017	81	369.30	7,38,940	51	364.35	7,53,542	30
2.	Ponnampet ..	132.8	2,66,301	94	146.95	2,84,813	02	191.07	3,82,112	35	373.72	6,94,426	61
3.	Gonikoppal ..	241.8	4,85,069	84	211.95	4,04,717	13	339.13	6,65,044	47	782.38	15,32,288	20
4.	Ammathi ..	144.6	2,91,006	29	110.43	2,23,100	09	278.94	5,59,208	13	510.65	10,19,962	35
5.	Virajpet ..	142.9	2,91,404	39	109.49	2,08,218	40	266.47	5,21,898	08	550.54	10,92,379	17
6.	Cheyyandane ..	73.4	1,51,368	40	94.05	1,81,096	86	122.20	2,37,828	83	194.93	3,88,083	59
7.	Napoklu ..	236.2	4,86,635	15	162.28	3,13,722	40	223.50	4,31,999	81	344.00	7,17,597	40
8.	Murnad ..	149.0	2,96,731	49	126.88	2,45,575	59	167.77	3,34,464	73	310.30	5,93,014	62
9.	Mercara ..	96.7	2,08,324	84	133.39	3,05,927	27	337.16	7,74,811	96	444.00	10,40,143	83
	Total ..	1532.1	31,12,651	26	1,354.06	26,72,188	57	2,295.54	46,46,308	87	3,874.87	78,31,436	16

Workers' Unions.

There are several unions of workers in the district connected with different trades and industries.

These associations have been formed with a view to bringing about closer unity amongst the workers of the trade or industry concerned, to lay out a common policy and to devise ways and means of further promotion of their interests.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES : OLD UNITS AND ADOPTION OF ALL-INDIA STANDARDS.

The weights and measures, during the days of the Rajas had no fixed standard and were subject to great variations in different places of the district. The following table was generally applicable to Coorg proper. The Haunnee and Bhutty were the universal grain measures, and in them all accounts regarding it were kept; the seer was divided into several parts; its basis was a bulk of grain, equivalent to the weight of eighty rupees.

Grain measure in Coorg proper.

1 Munnah = ½ Pukka Seer.
2 Munnah = 1 Seer.
4 Munnah = 2 Seers =1 Haunnee.
20 Munnah=10 Seers=5 Haunnees=1 small Pan.
40 Munnah=20 Seers=10 Haunnees=1 large Pan.
160 Munnah = 80 Seers = 40 Haunnees = 4 large Pan or Bhutty (one)

27½ Rupees in weight = 1 Seer
40 Seers = one Maund
20 Maunds = 1 Candy.

The above seer was the circar one; there was however another less than it, also in use.

Below the ghats, the seer was only twenty-four rupees weight.

The following table was applicable to some parts :—

24 Rupees in weight=1 Seer
40 Seers = 1 Maund
20 Maunds = one Candy.

Pepper was sold by this scale; in other parts, the Seer was 26 rupees in weight and the Dhurra which was equal to ten seers was in use.

The measures below the ghats were equally various; the following was the most common.

42 Seers = 1 Moodan
42 Moodan = 1 Corge.

The Moodan or Muddy was the universal grain measure; the seer mentioned differed from 80 to 84 rupees in weight. The measures in Yelusaviraseeme (present Somwarpet taluk) did not vary greatly except in some of the terms from Coorg proper. Those in ordinary use were :—

2 Seers=1 Haunnee
3 Haunnees=1 Coolug
20 Coolugs=1 Candy.

Land Measure.

The land measure of Coorg proper was known throughout its extent by the term *Bhutty*; this was understood as that space of ground which produced such a quantity of grain; in Yelusaviraseeme *Cundikay* and in all other lower places, *Mudday* was the land measure.

Distances.

Distances were computed by the difficulties the road presented, and the time requisite to traverse it, more than its actual length; they were also calculated by sound, thus "as far as a man can halloo" or "as a horn can be heard", which from the reverberation of the wood and hills was a long distance, and the natives had a very peculiar manner of calling or shouting. The *cosa* in the more level country was estimated at three miles but in the hilly parts, a little more than two.

The metric system of weights and measures was introduced in the district with effect from October 1, 1959. The all-India standard regarding weights and measures is now made compulsory and the old-time weights and measures which were bewildering in their variety have been completely replaced by the new metric system.

DETAILS OF PROMINENT SOCIETIES

Sl. No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location

SOMWARPET TALUK

I. *Agricultural Societies :—*

Sl. No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
1.	Thaltare Shettalli	..	22-5-1905	Thaltare Shettalli
2.	Kudlur	..	8-2-1922	Kudlur
3.	Umeshwara	..	30-6-1925	Srimangala Kopplu
4.	Gopalapura	..	24-2-1926	Gopalapura
5.	Mullur	..	25-2-1926	Mullur
6.	Anknalli	..	25-2-1926	Anknalli
7.	Herur	..	9-10-1928	Herur
8.	Madapur	..	1-2-1930	Madapur
9.	Nallia-Hudikeri	..	25-1-1950	Nallia-Hudikeri
10.	Nakur-Kanabylu	..	27-7-1954	Nakur
11.	Harijan Seva	..	1-8-1954	Kodlipet
12.	Horur	..	23-11-1954	Horur
13.	Erale-Valamudi	..	10-10-1919	Erale-Valamudi
14.	Kandanakolly	..	10-10-1919	Kandanakolly
15.	Harangi	..	26-1-1928	Harangi

II. *Large-sized Co-operative Societies .—*

Sl. No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
1.	Kodlipet	..	6-3-1958	Kodlipet
2.	Hebbale	..	24-8-1957	Hebbale
3.	Rameshwara-Kudamangalore.	..	17-12-1928	Kudamangalore
4.	Suntikoppa	..	30-8-1954	Suntikoppa
5.	Gowdalli	..	22-5-1956	Gowdalli
6.	Mallikarjuna	..	9-8-1957	Santhalli
7.	Chowdlu	..	20-6-1958	Chowdlu
8.	Handli	..	23-6-1958	Handli

III. *Service Co-operative Societies :—*

Sl. No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
1.	Garvale	..	26-5-1960	Garvale
2.	Kiragandur	..	16-3-1960	Kiragandur
3.	Tholur-shettalli	..	26-2-1960	Tholur-shettalli
4.	Nidtha	..	16-3-1960	Nidtha
5.	Torenur	..	19-2-1960	Torenur
6.	Sirangala	..	19-2-1960	Sirangala
7.	Nerugalale	..	12-6-1961	Negalekarkalli
8.	Bembalur	..	27-2-1960	Bembalur
9.	Besur	..	20-4-1960	Besur
10.	Neergunda	..	27-2-1960	Neergunda
11.	Alur-Siddapur	..	20-4-1960	Alur
12.	Valnur-Thyagathur	..	27-2-1960	Valnur
13.	Nanjarajpatna	..	19-2-1960	Nanjarajpatna
14.	Abbiathmangala	..	10-8-1956	Abbiathmangala
15.	Kambibane	..	16-4-1960	Hosakote
16.	Cheral-Srimangala	..	16-3-1960	Chettalli

Sl. No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location

MERCARA TALUK

I. Agricultural Societies :—

Sl. No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
1.	Balamuri	..	24-1-1919	Balamuri
2.	Kirundad	..	24-1-1919	Kirundad
3.	Ballathunad	..	15-1-1934	Ballathunad
4.	Bengur	..	2-6-1919	Bengur
5.	Bettageri	..	2-6-1919	Bettageri
6.	Aruvathoklu	..	2-6-1919	Aruvathoklu
7.	Kargunda	..	2-6-1919	Kargunda
8.	Yemmenadu	..	5-6-1919	Napoklu
9.	Karavale-Bhagavathi	..	2-8-1941	Karanangeri
10.	Mekeri	..	15-4-1953	Mekeri
11.	Biligeri	..	10-10-1919	Biligeri
12.	Ibbnivaladi	..	10-10-1919	Ibbnivaladi
13.	Palur	..	3-1-1920	Palur
14.	Kumbabdal	..	20-2-1920	Kumbabdal
15.	Kokeri	..	3-4-1923	Kokeri
16.	Katakeri	..	8-1-1924	Katakeri
17.	Cholavara	..	6-2-1925	Chelavara
18.	Palangala	..	6-2-1925	Palangala
19.	Thekkadu family	..	8-4-1925	Hoddur
20.	Heravanad	..	25-3-1927	Heravanad
21.	Kalianda family	..	26-1-1928	Kolakeri
22.	Hodavada	..	14-8-1957	Hodavada
23.	Kadiathur	..	13-5-1919	Kadiathur
24.	Kopatti	..	2-4-1930	Kopatti
25.	Bettathur	..	24-6-1930	Bettathur
26.	Avandur	..	11-10 1930	Avandur
27.	Kaikadu	..	8-4-1936	Kaikadu
28.	Karade Bhagavathi	..	18-4-1936	Karade
29.	Jayalakshmi	..	22-2-1938	Bengunadbadga
30.	Bavali	..	26-1-1939	Bavali
31.	Chembu	..	11-2-1941	Chembu
32.	Mukkodlu	..	26-1-1945	Mukkodlu
33.	Kattemadu Bhadrakali	..	12-6-1945	Kattemadu
34.	Arecad	..	14-12-1945	Arecad
35.	Singathur	..	10-8-1949	Singathur
36.	Hamiala Satyajeevana	..	21-3-1950	Hamiala
37.	Kaggodlu	..	15-4-1953	Kaggodlu
38.	Coorg Coffee Growers	..	2-1-1956	Mercara

II. Large-sized Societies :—

Sl. No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
1.	Murnad	..	20-5-1956	Murnad
2.	Bhagamandala	..	9-8-1957	Bhagamandala
3.	Hoddur	..	9-8-1957	Hoddur

Sl. No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
III.	*Service Co-operative Societies :—*			
1.	Parane	..	23-3-1960	Konajageri
2.	Napoklu	..	2-3-1960	Napoklu
3.	Nurambada	..	2-3-1960	Kolakeri
4.	Padinad	..	2-3-1960	Kakkabe
5.	Kolagadalu	..	19-2-1960	Cherambane
6.	Chettimani	..	26-2-1960	Chettimani
7.	Hosakeri-Maragodu	..	23-2-1960	Maragodu
8.	Nelajinad	..	2-3-1960	Nelaji
9.	Hakathur	..	25-2-1960	Hakathur
10.	Kadagadal	..	29-2-1960	Kadagadal
11.	Makkandur	..	19-2-1960	Makkandur
12.	Galibeedu	..	19-2-1960	Galibeedu
13.	Arapattu	..	19-2-1960	Arapattu
14.	Nariandada	..	19-2-1960	Cheyyandane
15.	Sampaje-Malleswar	..	26-2-1960	Sampaje
16.	Kalur	..	19-2-1960	Kalur
17.	Peraje	..	27-2-1960	Peraje
18.	Made	..	22-9-1943	Made
19.	Karike	..	23-2-1960	Karike

VIRAJPET TALUK

Sl. No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
I.	*Agricultural Societies :—*			
1.	Kunda	..	19-5-1919	Kunda
2.	Mathur	..	19-5-1919	Mathur
3.	Nallur	..	19-5-1919	Nallur
4.	Besagur	..	19-5-1919	Besagur
5.	Thuchamakeri	..	19-5-1919	Thuchamakeri
6.	Begur	..	19-5-1919	Begur
7.	Kuthunad	..	19-5-1919	Kuthunad
8.	Theralu	..	19-5-1919	Theralu
9.	Kottur	..	19-5-1919	Kottur
10.	Thavalageri	..	19-5-1919	Thavalageri
11.	Hermad	..	19-5-1919	Kumtur Badaga
12.	Bilugunda	..	21-5-1955	Bilugunda
13.	Byrambada	..	20-5-1919	Byrambada
14.	Kolthadabygodu	..	9-4-1920	Kolthadabygodu
15.	Kuklur	..	1-2-1921	Kuklur
16.	Arji	..	1-2-1921	Arji
17.	Bittangala	..	1-2-1921	Bittangala
18.	Maggula	..	1-2-1921	Maggula
19.	Aimangala	..	3-2-1922	Aimangala
20.	Devanageri	..	8-5-1922	Devanageri
21.	Kuppande family	..	8-7-1922	Nangala
22.	Kangalathnad	..	30-6-1924	Mayamudi
23.	Mugutageri	..	6-4-1925	Mugutageri
24.	Echur	..	6-4-1925	Echur
25.	Kotur	..	11-6-1925	Kotur

Sl.No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
26.	Hudur	..	11-6-1925	Hudur
27.	Halligattu	..	11-6-1925	Halligattu
28.	Kunjilageri	..	2-12-1925	Kunjilageri
29.	Guddanda family	..	19-2-1926	Nangala
30.	Halgunda	..	23-6-1938	Halgunda
31.	Balliamundur	..	23-11-1929	Balliamundur
32.	Ajjamada family	..		Srimangala
33.	Balaji	..	2-4-1930	Balaji
34	Tithimathi Sri Rama	.	2-12-1935	Tithimathi
35.	Chikkamandur	..	2-3-1936	Chikkamandur
36.	Kongeri	..	2-3-1936	Kongeri
37.	Nadikeri	..	2-3-1936	Nadikeri
38.	Hysodlur	..	2-3-1936	Hysodlur
39.	Maniampanda family	..	20-3-1936	Gonikoppal
40.	Nemmale	..	2-5-1936	Nemmale
41.	Bellur	..	30-6-1936	Bellur
42.	Kaikeri Harijan	..	26-11-1936	Kaikeri
43	Tonakeri	..	28-6-1939	Mugutageri, Hudukeri.
44.	Bilugunda Harijan	..	17-5-1940	Bilugunda
45.	Madikebeedu	..	31-5-1945	Mayamudi
46	Virajpet Badaga	..	29-1-1947	Badaga
47.	Podakeri	..	29-1-1947	Podakeri
48.	Kalathnad	..	20-3-1951	Kalathnad
49.	Nehru Harijan Welfare	..	30-3-1951	Aravathoklu
50.	Mythadi	..	24-5-1952	Mythadi
51.	Arameri	..	24-5-1952	Arameri
52.	Kadanur-Bellerimad	..	24-5-1952	Kadanur
53	Kadangamurur	.	24-5-1952	Kadangamurur
54.	Kottoli	..	24-5-1952	Kottoli
55.	Parakatageri	..	2-6-1952	Parakatageri, Hudikeri.
56.	Heggala-Bhagavathi	..	30-5-1955	Heggala
57.	Rudraguppe	..	19-5-1919	Rudraguppe

II. Large-sized Societies.—

Sl.No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
1.	Karmad	..	26-11-1959	Karmad, Ammathi
2.	Gonikoppal	..	4-10-1958	Gonikoppal
3.	Kanur	..	15-3-1939	Kanur
4.	Balale	..	9-8-1957	Balale
5.	Bittangala	..	9-8-1957	Bittangala

III. Service Co-operative Societies.—

Sl.No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
1.	Hudikeri	..	16-3-1960	Hudikeri
2.	Srimangala	..	1-3-1960	Srimangala
3.	Harihara	..	1-3-1960	Harihara
4.	T. Shettigeri	..	1-3-1960	T. Shettigeri
5.	Hossur	..	29-2-1960	Hossur
6.	Pollibetta	..	16-3-1960	Pollibetta

Sl. No.	Name of Society		Date of starting	Location
7.	Chembebellur	..	2-3-1960	Chembebellur
8.	Betoli	..	29-2-1960	Betoli
9.	Kirgur	..	29-2-1960	Kirgur
10.	Bekkesodlur	..	15-4-1960	Bekkesodlur
11.	Kutta	..	4-5-1960	Kutta
12.	Mayamudi	..	2-4-1930	Mayamudi
13.	Guyya	..	18-3-1960	Siddapur
14.	Birunani	..	1-2-1960	Birunani
15.	B. Shettigeri	..	18-3-1960	B. Shettigeri
16.	Hathur	..	29-2-1960	Hathur
17.	Nalkeri	..	2-12-1941	Nalkeri
18.	Kakotuparambu	..	29-2-1960	Nalkeri
19.	Bellumad	..	29-2-1960	Bellumad
20.	Kedamullur	..	29-2-1960	Kedamullur
21.	Hebbale-Badragola	..	2-8-1955	Vontiangadi
22.	Maldarebadaga	..	25-3-1961	Badaga Banangala

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

THERE is no authentic and precise information about old-time trade routes in Coorg district except some fragmentary observations of surveyors who have described the state of affairs prior to the British annexation in 1834. Lieutenant Connor in his Memoirs of the Codugu Survey published in 1817 has this to say about communications: "Codagu broken by hills, covered with woods having but indifferent roads and no large towns, holds out but few temptations to an extensive intercourse with its neighbours, the superior advantage it enjoys for the production of rice renders it however in some measure the granary of the countries in its vicinity". During the rule of the Rajas, no attention was paid to the development of road communications. It was the policy of those, who ruled the area before the British stepped in, to make the country as inaccessible as possible. Towards this end, they discouraged all efforts at road-making. They did not want outsiders to come into Coorg. Thus, during the rule of the Rajas, there was not a single good road worth the name. A few that existed were mere pack-bullock paths and the rest were mere bridle paths. Before 1834, when the British military engineers thought of opening up some means of communication, the roads in Coorg were in a primitive state wholly unfit for wheeled carriages and scarcely less for bullocks. The Rajas feared that easy communications would facilitate invasion of their country by outsiders. For this reason, some of the more direct and practicable lines of communication leading to Mercara were closed and travelling by them was prohibited. To that extent, intercourse with the outside world was not possible. The earliest road construction work in Coorg was begun in January 1836, one year after the British took over. The route from Fraserpet (Kushalnagar) to Mercara, a distance of 20 miles, was completed within two years and opened for traffic. Captain Underwood of the Sappers, ably assisted by Lieutenants Bundal, Doria and Fast, supervised the work. This route from the Mysore side to Mercara had to cross the Cauvery river for which a bridge had to be constructed. The first stone of this bridge was laid on 1st January 1846 by Captain W. G. Onslow who was Superintendent of Coorg at that time. The bridge

site was at the point where the trunk road from Mysore enters Coorg at Fraserpet. This bridge is a masonry construction of seven arches and is 315 feet in length. Having commenced the bridge in 1846, the same was opened for traffic on 12th May 1848. The portion of this road in the proximity of Mercara is in several places very steep and has many hair-pin bends. The tortuous nature of the road has been improved in recent years so as to make it safe for traffic.

The next important road was through the Sampaje ghat and this was taken up after the monsoon months in 1837. This was the line from Mercara towards Mangalore which is also called "Fast's Ghat", so named to perpetuate the professional skill of the young engineer officer who planned and executed this road work and who fell a victim to the jungle fever at the spot. The construction of this road was beset with many engineering difficulties as the passage lay through dense forests. The Sampaje ghat road was laid on a good soil with a gentle slope down the valleys so as to facilitate cart traffic of those days. At certain stages of this important ghat road, particularly between the ninth and tenth mile from Mercara, the gradient for a short distance is as much as one in 12 and one in six or seven. The total fall in the first 15 miles is about 2,000 feet which gives a gradient of one in 37 for the whole ghat road. From the foot of the ghat to Sampaje village at the South Kanara frontier, the fall is only 55 feet.

Another important old-time road from Cannanore in Kerala towards Coorg passed through the Periambadi ghat, the construction of which was completed by 1849. This ghat road was laid mainly for military purposes. Shortly afterwards, a road from Virajpet to Mercara was laid connecting the Periambadi Ghat road. This line was linked from Mercara to Kodlipet in 1868. The Cannanore road has a steep gradient with one in nine at several places. Beyond the seventh mile from Mercara, a high arched bridge across the Mutharmudi river has been constructed. Beyond the 12th mile, the Cauvery river had to be crossed and in the old days a ferry service offered facilities. From this point to Virajpet, the road is level. Near about Virajpet, the Periambadi ghat descends towards Kerala. From the head of the ghat, which is 3,141 feet above mean sea level, the descent down the ghats varies from one in 18 and 20 to one in 30. At some places near the Wottekolli Bungalow, there is a severe gradient of one in 10 and one in 12. The road after this point is easy.

The northern highroad which is also old—constructed near about 1870—connects Mercara with Sakleshpur in Hassan district through Somwarpet and Kodlipet. It was not until 1862, that the roads of Coorg were sufficiently recognised to induce the Government to organise a regular establishment for the execution of public works. A detachment of Sappers and Miners having been

stationed in Coorg since 1834, all the urgent public works were carried out by them and after they had been withdrawn, an overseer took charge of the roads. In order to avoid the steep Mercara ghat roads for the through traffic from Mysore to Mangalore, a new pathway was cut by Lieut. Clarke and Mr. Gramatzki to connect the Periyapatna—Siddapur road with the Sampaje ghat road. In addition to the roads, designed and carried out from Government funds, others have also been constructed by coffee planters without any State assistance.

Before Coorg became a district of Mysore State, there were ten main outlets which are as follows:—

1. Mercara to Mangalore *via* Sampaje.
2. Mercara to Kerala *via* Makut.
3. Mercara to Kerala *via* Kutta.
4. Mercara to Hunsur *via* Kushalnagar.
5. Mercara to Hunsur *via* Gaddige.
6. Mercara to Hunsur *via* Anechowkur.
7. Mercara to Konanur *via* Sirangala.
8. Mercara to Arkalagud *via* Sanivarasanthe.
9. Mercara to Sakleshpur *via* Sanivarasanthe.
10. Mercara to Hassan *via* Kodlipet.

Main outlets branching off from Mercara were all black-topped. There is also a network of internal village communications reaching almost every village in the district.

The hills and dense jungles of Coorg presented untold difficulties in road-making in the old days. During the time of the Rajas, there was no attempt at opening up communications because it was feared that outsiders would invade the territory. They were content with foot-paths laid from place to place which were used as cart tracks also. It was only after the annexation of Coorg that real road-making was started. The Fraserpet-Mercara road, the Periambadi ghat road and the Mercara-Mangalore road were the earliest roads in Coorg. Just before the First World War, Coorg had 205 miles of metalled roads and by 1927 this was increased to 253 miles. By 1935, a net-work of village communications was opened both by the State and the District Board. In the year 1935, Coorg had 253 miles of metalled roads, 182 miles of gravelled roads and 73 miles of local fund roads. Between 1933 and 1939, the road from Virajpet to Mercara leading to Napoklu and the road from Ammathi to Vontiangadi were all metalled. The metalling of the Napoklu-Kakkabe road was taken up in 1945 and the Gonikoppal-Devanur road in 1948. The asphalting of the roads in Coorg was started in right earnest from 1929. Some lengths of the Mercara-Fraserpet road, Mercara-Siddapur road and Mercara-Mangalore road were all asphalted in 1929. The main roads leading to the headquarters town were widened. Up to 1953, more than 80 miles of roads were asphalted.

Roads

As there are no national highways in Coorg District, the roads maintained by the State Public Works Department are classified into various categories, *viz.*, State Highways, Major District roads, other district roads and village roads. The total road length maintained by the Public Works Department as on 31st March 1963, was 591 miles and 2 furlongs consisting of all the categories mentioned above. This total excludes the mileage maintained by the Forest Department. The State highways in the confines of the district run to a length of 82 miles and 2 furlongs. In the category of Major District roads, there is a total length of 376 miles and 5 furlongs. A total length of 37 miles and 4 furlongs comes under other district roads. Only 94 miles and 7 furlongs come under the category of village roads. The surface-wise break-up of the total length of 591 miles and 2 furlongs is as follows:—

Black-topped	406 miles and 6 furlongs
Water-bound Macadam surface ..	52 miles and 5 furlongs
Other kinds of surface treatment .	6 miles and 6 furlongs
Natural soil roads	125 miles and 1 furlong

Total Road Mileage:—According to the statistics furnished by the State Public Works Department, the total length of roads under various agencies as on 31st March 1963 was 823 miles. Coorg District has an area of 1,590 square miles. The road mileage in charge of the State Public Works Department was 591 and the various local bodies maintained 120 miles. The Forest Department had a total length of 112 miles under their care. Out of the total length of 823 miles, the surfaced portion was 473 miles and the rest came under the category of unsurfaced roads.

Roads maintained by the Public Works Department.—Out of a total length of 591·2 miles maintained by the Public Works Department, the surfaced portion was 459·3 miles and the unsurfaced portion was 131·7 miles.

Under Local Bodies.—The roads maintained by local bodies (Taluk Boards) as on 31st March 1963 came to 120 miles

Forest Roads.—The State Forest Department have under their maintenance a total length of 112 miles and 2 furlongs. Out of this total, only 13 miles and 4 furlongs are surfaced and the rest unsurfaced.

State Highways.—Under the category of State Highways, a total length of 82 miles and 2 furlongs is maintained by the State Public Works Department. The whole length under this category is black-topped.

Major District Roads.—A total length of 376 miles and 5 furlongs comes under the category of Major District Roads maintained by the State Public Works Department. Out of this total length, 300 miles and 6 furlongs are black-topped, 23 miles and 4 furlongs have a water-bound macadam surface and 52 miles and 3 furlongs are unmetalled.

Other District Roads.—The district has a total length of 37 miles and 4 furlongs under this category. Out of this length, 18 miles and 5 furlongs are black-topped, 9 miles and 3 furlongs are water-bound macadam, and 9 miles and 4 furlongs are unmetalled.

Village Roads.—The total length of village roads is 94 miles and 7 furlongs. Out of this total, 70 miles have no metalled surface. Only 5 miles and 1 furlong are black-topped. A total length of 19 miles and 6 furlongs are treated with water-bound macadam.

Roads taken over.—The road mileage taken over as State Fund Roads from the District Boards from 1958 to 1961 was 108 miles and 2 furlongs.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure on roads and bridges beginning from 1956-57 shows an upward trend. During 1957-58, the total expenditure was Rs. 27.72 lakhs. During 1961-62, the expenditure on roads and bridges in Coorg was Rs. 21.81 lakhs. During 1962-63, the expenditure was Rs. 37.23 lakhs.

A brief description of some of the important roads is given below. The length indicated in brackets is the actual length within the confines of the district.

State Highways

Mercara-Mangalore Road (Length 18 miles and 4 furlongs).—The entire length of 18 miles and 4 furlongs is black-topped. Starting from the headquarters town of Mercara, the road descends down the ghats and leaves the district near Sampaje village. This road is familiarly called Sampaje ghat road. The road has many hair-pin bends and is particularly steep near the ninth mile from Mercara. Vehicles coming up the ghats from the Mangalore side stop at a point in the middle of the steep ghat section where the road maintenance authorities have fixed up a water point, for providing water for car radiators. The road is one of the oldest in Coorg, passing through dense jungles, rich rubber estates and teak reserves. It is of particular interest to note that of all the ghat roads in the west of Mysore, the Sampaje ghat road is the easiest from the point of view of negotiation. It is not so steep or tortuous as the other ghat roads leading towards South Kanara from the plateau. The Mercara-Mangalore road has a good asphalted surface and is well-maintained as an all-weather road. Several portions have been

protected from landslips. This road is the only road in the district connecting Coorg with South Kanara district. The Mercara-Galibeedu road runs parallel to this road.

Mercara-Malabar Road (Length 43 miles and 5 furlongs) — The entire length of this road is black-topped. The road is also called the Periambadi ghat road and is aligned through the Heggala pass. Starting from Mercara, the road takes a south-easterly direction up to Siddapur where it crosses the Cauvery river and then runs south-west passing through Ammathi, Virajpet and Periambadi ghat. The road leaves the district after crossing the Kari-hole, a mountain stream near the Kerala border. The portion of the road from Virajpet onwards is particularly tortuous as it descends down the ghats. Vehicles from Mysore to Kerala pass through this important road.

Fraserpet-Mercara Road (Length 20 miles and 1 furlong).—The entire length of this road is black-topped. The road enters the district near the Cauvery bridge at Fraserpet (Kushalnagar) and runs westwards towards Mercara passing through Ane-kad reserve forests, Suntikoppa and through several coffee estates to the district headquarter town. This road is also called the Mysore-Mangalore road *via* Mercara and is maintained well as an all-weather road. Very near Mercara, the road has a steep gradient with many hair-pin bends. A panoramic view of the grandeur of the Western ghats is obtained from a point on this road three miles from Mercara. The mighty peak of Kudure Mukha is visible as also the towering Bettadapura hill. The portion from Fraserpet (Kushalnagar) to Suntikoppa passes through thick bamboo forests.

Major District Roads

Mercara-Bhagamandala Road (Length 21 miles and 1 furlong).—The entire length is black-topped. The road takes a south-westerly direction up to a length of five miles and then runs towards west right up to Bhagamandala. This is a major district road, and thousands of pilgrims travel on this road to have a bath in the sacred Cauvery during Tula-Sankramana.

Mercara-Virajpet Road (Length 19 miles and 3 furlongs).—The entire length of this road is black-topped and runs south up to the Cauvery river and after crossing it takes a slightly south-easterly direction up to Virajpet, a taluk headquarter town. This road also affords a link to the Mercara-Malabar Road. Having been laid on the eastern spur of the Western ghats, the Mercara-Virajpet road is a winding one, presenting no difficulty in negotiation.

Mercara-Kodlipet Road (Length 46 miles and 3 furlongs).—The entire length of this road is black-topped and runs *via* Madapur and Sanivarsanthe to Kodlipet on the border of Hassan

district. Up to Madapur, the road takes a north-easterly direction and from there the road turns towards east for a few miles and then takes a northerly direction towards Kodlipet. This is a very important road in the district as it affords easy access towards Sakleshpur, Hassan and Chikmagalur.

Virajpet-Mysore Road (Length 20 miles and 7 furlongs).—This road takes a north-easterly direction and passes through Gonikoppal and Tithimathi towards the borders of Periyapatna Taluk in Mysore District. The entire length is black-topped and runs through the eastern spur of the Western ghats.

Gonikoppal-Wynad Road (Length 23 miles and 4 furlongs).—The entire length of this road is black-topped. Starting from Gonikoppal, the road passes through Ponnampet, Hudikeri and Srimangala in a south-easterly direction and leaves the district near Kutta on the Wynad border. This important road winds through coffee and cardamom plantations and enters Wynad, another rich plantation area in Kerala.

Napoklu-Bhagamandala Road (Length 14 miles and 6 furlongs).—Though a natural soil road, this road communication is an important one for conveying traffic from Napoklu towards Bhagamandala. The road has a north-westerly direction and runs parallel to the Cauvery river for most of the distance.

Sanivarsanthe-Banavara Road (Length 9 miles and 2 furlongs).—The entire length of this road is black-topped and runs in a south-easterly direction up to Banavara. The road is then continued and is called Kudige-Fraserpet road. This road has attained importance because it is laid through the paddy and ragi fields of Somwarpet taluk.

Ammathi-Tithimathi Road (Length 12 miles and 4 furlongs).—The whole length of this road is black-topped and runs east passing through Pollibetta to Tithimathi. The road is then joined by the Virajpet-Mysore road. Throughout, the road winds through rich coffee estates.

Fraserpet-Somwarpet Road (Length 13 miles and 6 furlongs).—This is a black-topped road running north-westwards to Somwarpet, a taluk headquarter town situated north of Mercara. From Fraserpet the road runs parallel to the Cauvery river for some distance and after crossing the Kudige bridge takes a north-westerly turn towards Somwarpet. The road is close to the Harangi river for some distance.

Ponnampet-Kanur-Nittoor Road (Length 14 miles and 3 furlongs).—Seven miles and five furlongs of this road have a natural soil surface and the rest has other kinds of surface

treatment. From Ponnampet this road runs in a south-easterly direction up to Kanur and then takes a north-easterly direction reaching Nittoor near the Lakshmanathirtha river. The entire length of this road passes through paddy fields and coffee plantations.

Somwarpet-Shanthalli-Kundalli Road (Length 10 miles and 1 furlong).—This is a metalled road running north-west from Somwarpet and reaching Kundalli which is close to Herati Hole, a mountain stream flowing towards the west.

Siddapur-Mysore Road (Length 11 miles).—The entire length of this road is black-topped and runs north-eastwards to Periyapatna taluk in Mysore district. Vehicles coming from Mysore run through this road to Kerala through the Periambadi ghat.

Siddapur-Pollibetta Road (Length 6 miles and 2 furlongs).—This road runs south-eastwards to Pollibetta, a coffee-growing area near Mysore district border. The entire length of this road is black-topped and continues from Pollibetta up to Tithimathi, joining the Virajpet-Mysore road.

Virajpet-Nalknad Road (Length 11 miles and 6 furlongs).—Only nine miles of this road are black-topped and the rest has a metalled surface. The road takes a south-westerly run to Nalknad, where the palace of the Coorg Rajas is situated overlooking the finest natural view in Coorg. This road is important for tourists as the palace in Nalknad provides a grand view of the Heggala pass.

Other District Roads

There are only seven roads coming under the category of other district roads, the more important being the Ammathi-Hosur-Gonikoppal Road, the Ponnampet-Echur-Hathur Road and the Pollibetta-Gonikoppal Road. No road of this category exceeds a length of eight miles. The Periambadi-Bittangala road, Pollibetta-Gonikoppal road and Arakalgud-Kodlipet road are black-topped and the rest are either metalled or have natural soil surface. A few of the roads in this category need some description.

Arkalgud-Kodlipet Road (Length 4 miles and 4 furlongs).—This is a black-topped road running from Arkalgud in Hassan district to Kodlipet in Somwarpet taluk. From Arkalgud the road takes a north-westerly turn and then takes a westerly course to Kodlipet.

Bittangala-Periambadi Road (Length 3 miles and 6 furlongs).—The entire length of this road is black-topped and runs south-westwards from Bittangala to join the Mercara-Malabar road through the Periambadi ghat. This link affords easy access

to vehicles coming from the Mysore side and going towards Kerala without touching Virajpet. The distance saved is about ten miles.

Pollibetta-Gonikoppal Road (Length 4 miles and 7 furlongs).—This is also a black-topped road running southwards from Pollibetta to Gonikoppal. At Gonikoppal this road is connected with the Mysore-Virajpet road.

Ammathi-Hosur-Gonikoppal Road (Length 5 miles and 2 furlongs).—Except one mile of this road which has a black-topped surface, the rest is metalled. This road runs south-eastwards from Ammathi and joins the Mysore-Virajpet road near Gonikoppal.

T. Shettigeri-Marenad Road (Length 8 miles and 2 furlongs).—Only 6 miles and 6 furlongs of this road have a natural soil surface and it runs west from T. Shettigeri crossing the Karihole river, some three miles from T. Shettigeri. T. Shettigeri is on the Mercara-Wynad road. A length of 1 mile and 4 furlongs has a metalled surface.

Village Roads

In all, there are 14 village roads in Coorg district. The Bittangala-Kuttiyala road (8 miles and 4 furlongs) which is metalled runs south-eastwards from Bittangala and reaches Kuttiyala on the banks of the Karihole river. The Kanur-Nagarahole road having a length of nine miles and three furlongs affords easy communication to the recently established game sanctuary. Some of the village roads in Coorg District have been black-topped. The Uduvathamotte road having a length of 2 miles and 2 furlongs, has been black-topped. Portions of Bittangala-Kuttiyala road, Ponnampet-Ponnappa Santhe road, Murnad-Balamuniparane road, Konnankatte Tithimathi road, Subramanya-Kadamakal-Mercara road and Bhagamandala-Talakaveri road have been metalled. The rest have natural soil surface.

Forest Roads

The Mysore Forest Department is maintaining a total length of 112 miles and 2 furlongs of earth roads and water-bound macadam roads. These roads are scattered throughout the district.

There are 55 roads formed by the Public Works Department to be maintained by Taluk Boards.

The following statement indicates the details of major bridges in the district having linear waterway of more than 100 feet :—

STATEMENT SHOWING THE DETAILS OF MAJOR BRIDGES HAVING A LINEAR WATERWAY OF MORE THAN 100 FEET

(Corrected upto 31st March 1964)

Sl. No.	Name of Bridge	Location	Waterway: Span length	Waterway: No of spans	Linear waterway	Type of decking	Road width over bridge	Cost of bridge	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
								Rs.	
1.	Submersible Bridge at Bethri.	12/2 Mercara-Virajpet Road	34′	8	272	R.C.C. decking	22′	23,800	Work completed in the year 1956.
2.	Hardur Bridge	Jamboor—Suntikoppa road at 2/1.	44′	7	308	Arched bridge	22′	4,10,000	Work completed in the year 1956.
3.	Cauvery Bridge at Fraserpet.	At 20/1 of Mercara-Fraserpet Road.	45′	7	315	do	18′	Not known.	100 years old
4.	Cauvery Bridge at Siddapur.	16/4—5 Mercara—Malabar Road.	40′	7	280	do	18′	do	do
5.	Hatti Bridge	7/6 Mercara—Kodlipet Road.	30′ 29′	5 } 7 2 }	208	do	10′	do	..
6.	Madapur Bridge	Along Mercara—Kodlipet Road between 12/4 to 12/5.	29′	7	203	R.C.C. decking	10½′	do	Old
7.	Bridge across Harangi near Kudige.	3/2 in mile of Fraserpet—Somwarpet Road.	70′	4	280	Steel trough bridge.	12′	do	..
8.	Balamuri H.L.C.	Onamnad—Parane road	12′	19	228	R.C.C. decking	12′	39,000	..
9.	H.L.C. across Payaswami river.	Balamuri near Sampaje	12′	12	144	do	12′	39,000	..

Vehicles and Conveyances.

The bullock cart, as elsewhere, is the usual means of cheap transport in the rural parts of Coorg. But it was only in the beginning of the 20th century that the bullock cart made its advent in the countryside, though in the old days carts from Mysore district passed through Coorg to Kerala and South Kanara. Most of the raiyats now have their own carts for transporting manure and carrying harvested crops from place to place. It is significant to note that there were no country carts during the time of the Rajas because of the nature of the terrain and the absence of good roads. When compared to other districts of the State, the number of bullock carts in Coorg is rather low. According to a census taken in 1956, the total number of country carts in the whole of Coorg was only 1,306 (Mercara taluk 52, Somwarpet taluk 759 and Virajpet taluk 495). A noteworthy feature in Coorg is the absence of pony-driven jutkas anywhere. In towns like Mercara, Virajpet and Somwarpet, it is rather difficult to go from place to place. Travellers find it difficult to go to bus stands. They engage men to carry their luggage and walk the distance. Those who can afford it hire taxis.

Coorg district has all the different varieties of modern vehicles, *viz.*, motor cycles, jeeps, motor cars, taxis, buses and lorries. The number of motor cycles had risen from 20 in 1953-54 to 114 in 1962. But the number of lorries shows a reduced strength from 355 in 1953-54 to 231 in 1962. Motor cars including jeeps have also been reduced from 306 in 1955-56 to 125 in 1962. The following table gives statistics of the modern transport vehicles for three years beginning from 1953-54.

Vehicles	1953–54	1954–55	1955–56
Motor cycles ..	20	29	37
Private cars including jeeps.	250	284	306
Taxis ..	18	19	26
Buses ..	83	92	108
Lorries ..	355	332	394
Tractors ..	40	51	54

According to the figures furnished by the Regional Transport Officer, Coorg, the following number of modern transport vehicles were on the registers as on 31st March 1963.

Motor cycles	..	137
Cars	..	555
Motor Cabs	..	50
Buses	..	76
Lorries	..	205
Tractors	..	80
Jeeps	..	143

Compared to earlier years, there is a marked reduction in the number of buses and lorries, while there is a noticeable increase in the number of motor cycles, tractors and taxis. The decrease in the number of lorries and buses since 1955-56 is perhaps due to the political changes brought about consequent on the States' re-organisation. Formerly, the Part 'C' State of Coorg was registering motor buses and lorries. Since it was merged in the New Mysore State several owners of buses and lorries preferred registration of their vehicles in South Kanara, Hassan and Mysore districts. As a result of the change in venue of registration, the figures show a decrease.

Prior to the States' reorganisation, there was no whole-time officer appointed for the administration of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1930. Under Section 44 of the Coorg Motor Vehicles Act of 1939, the Chief Commissioner of Coorg constituted a board known as the Provincial Transport Authority to exercise and discharge the powers and functions under sub-section 3 of Section 44 of the Motor Vehicles Act (Act IV of 1939). The Board consisted of four official members, the presidents of two municipalities (Mercara and Virajpet) and three non-official members. The Assistant Commissioner of Coorg was the Chairman of the Board. The Secretary of the Provincial Transport Authority was an Executive Officer under the Motor Vehicles Act. With the merger of Coorg with the Mysore State, the structure of this department has undergone a change. There is a Regional Transport Authority with the Regional Transport Officer as the executive head. All motor vehicles have to be duly registered under the Act.

Nationalisation of passenger transport has not been fully extended in Coorg. The buses operated by the Bangalore and Hassan Divisions of the Mysore State Road Transport Corporation touch Mercara and other places in Coorg, enroute. There is no organisational set-up of the Mysore Road Transport Corporation in the district. There are Road Transport Corporation buses from Bangalore, Mangalore, Mysore and Hassan passing through Coorg. The Luxury Express bus operated by the Road Transport Corporation from Bangalore to Mangalore passes through Mercara.

The Express bus from Mysore to Cannanore in Kerala passes through Siddapur and Virajpet. Since the inauguration of the new Hassan Division of the Road Transport Corporation, buses are being run from Hassan to Mercara *via* Kodlipet and Somwarpet. The Regional Transport Authority in Coorg has given only three route permits to the Road Transport Corporation, *viz.*, the Hassan-Mysore route, the Hassan-Mercara route and the Hassan-Virajpet route. The Hassan-Mysore route passes through Sakleshpur, Somwarpet, Madapur, Mercara, Hunsur and reaches Mysore. The Hassan—Mercara route goes *via* Gorur, Arkalgud, Kodlipet, Somwarpet and reaches the district headquarter town. The Hassan-Virajpet route runs *via* Gorur, Arkalgud, Ramanathapura, Konanur, Sirangala, Fraserpet (Kushalnagar), Suntikoppa and reaches Virajpet.

Private Bus Routes.

In addition to the Road Transport Corporation routes, the Regional Transport Authority in Coorg had given route permits to 73 private bus-owners up to the end of the year 1960-61. These privately operated buses touch almost all important places in Coorg.

Bus Stands.

Bus stands are located in all important urban centres in Coorg, *viz.*, Mercara, Somwarpet, Virajpet, Kushalnagar and Kodlipet. Mostly, these bus stands are managed by the local self-governing institutions. The usual amenities like hotel and public conveniences have been provided in these stands. In the Mercara bus stand, the Municipal authorities have provided lodging for travellers.

Proposals for a Railway line.

At present, Coorg district is not served by any railway line. The question of opening up a railway in Coorg so as to connect Coorg with the Old Mysore State and the West Coast has long been under consideration, but there is yet no prospect of the project materialising in the immediate future. The question, however, deserves serious consideration as a measure of long-term planning and the Central Government has accordingly been addressed. A railway line from the Mysore district to the West Coast *via* Fraserpet (Kushalnagar) in Coorg with a branch line connecting Mercara is proposed in view of the necessity and importance of linking up Coorg with the railway system. The question of laying the Cannanore-Mysore railway line through Coorg was suggested in February 1949. Shri Karunakara Menon, a Member of Parliament who spared no efforts in stressing the importance of this link, said in one of his speeches : "It is very difficult for the people in the west coast to go by rail to a place north of Mangalore which is the terminus of the Southern Railway. It would be very easy if Mangalore is joined to Mysore or Hassan ; still better it would be if the Southern Railway station at Cannanore is connected with Mysore after passing through Coorg". (I. M. Muthanna—A Tiny Model State of South

India—Pages 242-243). In a memorandum submitted to the Government of India, by the Southern India Chamber of Commerce in November 1952, the chamber urged the inclusion of the 105-mile long railway link between Mangalore and Hassan and the 40-mile long branch between Sakleshpur to Siddapur in Coorg, so as to open up rail communications in the small district of Coorg.* The proposal to construct a railway line between Tellicherry in Kerala and Makut in Coorg had once received consideration of the Government and even the preliminary survey of the route had been conducted about 30 years ago, but for various reasons the proposal was dropped. There was a tram-line on the Makut-Irite road in 1924 mainly for the transport of timber. Later, this line was dismantled due to mounting costs.

Travel and tourist facilities.

Coorg has always been the tourists' paradise. Nature has endowed the district with an unusual loveliness and scenic splendour. Its dense evergreen forests and variegated flora and fauna, its coffee estates and orange gardens, its peaks and paddy fields present Nature's bounty in all its captivating splendour. As the rainfall is copious in Coorg, the best season for the tourists is from October to May. Facilities for pilgrims and tourists have been provided in choultries, rest houses and travellers' bungalows. There are Inspection Bungalows and Travellers' Bungalows at Mercara, Somwarpet, Sanivarsanthe, Kushalnagar, Virajpet, Napoklu, Ponnampet, Srimangala and Bhagamandala. Choultries have been constructed in Bhagamandala, Talakaveri and Mercara. The Circuit House in Mercara is located in the bungalow once occupied by the Chief Commissioners of Coorg. It is a Class I circuit house with telephone facilities. A list of the existing rest houses and travellers' bungalows is appended at the end of the chapter. Generally, a portion of the circuit house in Mercara and portions of travellers' bungalows are reserved for Government personnel and these are named Inspection Bungalows.

Tourist Bungalow Class II

Since the whole of Coorg is a tourists' paradise, the State Government decided to attract increasing number of visitors. Towards this end, the State Tourist Department set about its task and a fine Tourists' Home is thrown open for visitors. This imposing structure is built on a summit not far from the famous Raja's Seat and provides comfortable accommodation for individuals and families. The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Mercara Division, Mercara, arranges accommodation on application. The Home has seven rooms, lounge, kitchen and the like.

---

* The Chief Minister of Mysore turned the first sod at Hassan on the 30th June 1965 to mark the inauguration of the construction of the metre guage line between Hassan and Mangalore. There is no proposal at present to link Sakleshpur, a railway station on the line, with Siddapur.

The Mysore Forest Department is maintaining several forest lodges in the midst of dense jungles. There are ten such bungalows in Coorg North Division *viz.*, Makut Forest Rest House, Watecoly Forest Rest House, Narimale Bungalow, Sellecolly Bungalow, Palemani Forest Camp House, Matre Forest Rest House, Mundrote Inspection Bungalow, Karike Camp House, Bengeri Inspection Bungalow and Dubare Inspection Bungalow. Most of these bungalows are III and IV Class bungalows with a cook-*cum*-caretaker; cooking utensils are also available. As no electric lights are available, petromax lights have been provided. All these forest lodges are situated in the midst of evergreen ghat forests and therefore not easily accessible. These bungalows are mainly intended for the use of camping forest officers during their inspection of the interior forest areas. Only the Dubare Inspection Bungalow is better situated inside the deciduous forests of the Kushalnagar range.

Forest Bungalows.

In the South Coorg Forest Division, there are three Forest Rest Houses located at Tithimathi, Murkal and Nagarhole. The Nagarhole Forest Rest House has two suites of rooms with facilities of cook, utensils, furniture and water. There is no provision of electricity. This lodge is situated 58 miles from the main Mysore-Hunsur Road. Tourists wishing to reach the game sanctuary at Nagarhole have to go through the approach road *via* Nallurpala which is on the Mysore-Hunsur Road. These three rest houses are managed by the Divisional Forest Officer, South Coorg Division, who has his office at Hunsur in Mysore district.

The oldest post office in the district is the one at Virajpet opened in 1864. A branch office was opened at Ammathi in 1871. The Mercara post office started working from 1870. When these post offices were opened by Her Majesty's Government, the *Anche* or local post played a notable part in conveying letters to all the taluk headquarter towns by employing mail runners. In the year 1894, a land mark was established in the carriage of mails. The foreign and outside mails were transported from Mysore to Mercara by tongas. The main telegraph line from the Mysore district passes through Mercara, straight on to Cannanore in Kerala. In 1865, a branch telegraph line to Mangalore on the west coast was completed. At present, the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department is looking after the postal, telephone and telegraph services. The Superintendent of Post Offices, Mysore Division, who has his headquarters in Mysore City looks after the work in Coorg district. The Post-Master General, Mysore Circle, is in over-all charge of the division. The Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Mysore, is in charge of the postal administration in his division and the staff in the division is subordinate to him. The opening of new post offices and the expansion of postal facilities is effected by him after obtaining necessary approval and

Posts and Telegraphs.

orders from the Post-Master General. As on 31st March 1964 there were in the district of Coorg, one Head Post Office, 21 Sub-Post Offices and 109 Branch Post Offices. A list showing the names of all categories of post offices is appended to this chapter.

Telegraph Offices.

There are in all 13 combined post and telegraph offices in Coorg district. There are no departmental telegraph offices. The combined post and telegraph offices provide telegraph facilities.

Telephone Exchanges.

Telephone exchanges are located in Mercara, Somwarpet, Virajpet, Kushalnagar and Gonikoppal. There is a public call office in Pollibetta for the use of the central offices of the Consolidated Coffee Estates, Ltd. The Mercara Manual Exchange has 79 connections. The other Manual Exchange with 33 connections is at Virajpet. There is only one Automatic Exchange in Somwarpet with 21 connections.

List of Public Call Offices in Coorg District as on 31st March, 1964.

Existing	*Sanctioned*
Ammathi	Sampaje
Murnad	Napoklu
Ponnampet	Sanivarsanthe
Siddapur	Madapur
Suntikoppa	

List of Telephone Exchanges in Coorg District as on 31st March, 1964.

Somwarpet	..	35 lines
Virajpet	..	100 lines
Kushalnagar	..	25 lines
Gonikoppal	..	25 lines
Mercara	..	120 lines

Classified list of Post Offices in Coorg District as on 31st March, 1964.

MERCARA, CHO

1. *Mercara CHO*—
   - Bettagere
   - Boikere CBO
   - Gali Beedu
   - Kadagadala
   - Kalur
   - Kandanakolli
   - Kaggodlu
   - Karnangeri
   - Made
   - Makkandur
   - Mercara College
   - Talattamane
2. *Bhagamandala*—
   - Cherambane
   - Chettimane
   - Kottur
3. *Chettalli*—
   - Kudur-Chettalli
   - Regional Fruit Research Station
4. *Chickpet Virajpet (NDSO)*—
   (Delivery from Virajpet)
5. *Gonikoppal CSO*—
   - Balale
   - Hebbale
   - Mayamudi
   - Ponnappasanthe
   - Tithimathi
6. *Hudikeri CSO*—
   - Birunani
   - Hysodlur
   - Nadikeri
   - T. Settigeri
7. *Kodlipet*—
   - Besur
   - Nirugunda
8. *Kudige CSO*—
   - Hebbale
   - Sirangala
9. *Kushalnagar CSO*—
   - Guddehosur
   - Nanjarajapatna
   - Valnur
10. *Kutta*
11. *Madapur*—
    - Aigoor
    - Goravale
    - Kumbur
    - Surlabi
12. *Mahadevpet Mercara (EDTSO, NDSO)*—
    (Delivery through Mercara HO)
13. *Murnad (Phonocum)*—
    - Balamuri
    - Betri
    - Hakathur
    - Hoddur
    - Maragodu
14. *Napoklu*—
    - Kolakeri
15. *Pollibetta CSO*—
    - Attur
    - Bhadragola
    - Channayanakote
16. *Ponnampet CSO*—
    - Balliamandur
    - Kanur
    - Kirgur
    - Kunda

17. *Sanivarasanthe CSO*—

Alur-Siddapur
Ankanahalli
Bembalur
Echalabeedu
Gowdahalli
Hosur-S-Santhe
Handli
Malambi
Nidtha

18. *Siddapur-Coorg CSO*—

Abyathmangala
Arekad
Badagabanangala
Guyya
Karadigodu
Maladare
Mekur-Hosakeri

19. *Somwarpet CSO*—

Abboorkatte
Balagunda
Belur-Somwarpeta
Bettadahalli
Ganaguru
Hanagallu
Haucode
Kumaranahalli
Shantalli
Thanniruhalla
Tolur-Shettihalli

20. *Srimangala*—

Kurchi
Nalkeri

21. *Suntikoppa CSO*—

Attur-Nallur
Haradur
Hosakote
Kallur
Kanbyle
Kodagaralli
Mathikad

22. *Virajpet CSO (LSG)*—

Ammathi CBO
Armeri
Ballamavati
Bettiathnad Shettigere
Bettoli
Bilugunda
Bittangala
Cheyyandane
Devanagiri
Halagunda
Hathur
Heggala
Hosur
Kadanga
Kadanur-Boikere
Kakkabe
Kakkotaparamba
Kedamullur
Kandangala
Makut
Nelji
Parane
Vontiangadi

HO (Head Office)	..	1
SO (Sub-Office)	..	21
BO (Branch Office)	..	109
Total	..	131

CSO=Combined Sub-Office.
NDSO=Non-Delivery Sub-Office.

EDTSO=Extra-Departmental Telegraph Sub-Office.
LSG=Lower Selection Grade.

Statement showing the details of Road Mileage in charge of Public Works Department, in Coorg District as on 31st March 1964.

Sl. No.	*Name of the Road*	*Total length*	*Cement concrete*	*Black-topped*	*Metalled*	*Other kinds of surface treatment*	*Natural soil*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I.	*National Highways.*—			Nil			
II.	*State Highways.*—						
1.	Mercara-Mangalore Road ..	18–4	..	18-4	.	..	..
2	Mercara-Malabar Road	43–5	..	43–5	..	..	..
3.	Mercara-Fraserpet Road ..	20–1	..	20–1	..	..	..
III.	*Major District Roads.*—						
1.	Mercara-Bhagamandala Road ..	21-1	..	21–1	..	..	..
2.	Mercara-Virajpet Road	19–3	..	19–3	..	..	..
3.	Suntikoppa-Siddapur Road ..	8–2	..	8–2	..	..	..
4.	Fraserpet-Siddapur Road ..	11–3	..	11–3	..	..	..
5.	Bettageri-Nalkanad Road ..	12–0	.	12–0	..	..	..
6.	Ammathi Mutanad Road	10–0	..	10-0	..	..	..
7.	Kaggodu-Katageri Road ..	2–0	..	2–0	..	..	..
8.	Murnad-Napoklu Road	5–4	..	3–0	2-4	..	..
9.	Jamboor-Suntikoppa Road ..	6–0	..	6–0	..	..	..
10.	Mercara-Kodlipet Road ..	46–3	..	46–3	..	..	..
11.	Somwarpet-Konanur Road ..	7–4	..	7–4	..	..	..
12.	Somwarpet-Fraserpet Road ..	13–6	..	13–6	..	..	..
13	Shanivarasanthe-Banavara Road .	9–2	..	9–2	..	..	..
14.	Chennangolli-Balale Road .	10–1	..	10–0½	0–0½	..	..
15.	Hebbale-Banavara Road ..	5–7	..	5-7	..	..	..
16.	Fraserpet-Sirangala Road ..	7–3	..	7–3	..	..	..
17.	Virajpet-Mysore Road	20–7	..	20–7	..	..	..
18.	Virajpet-Nalkanad Road ..	11–6	..	9–0	2–6	..	.
19.	Siddapur-Pollibetta Road .	6-2	..	6–2	..	..	..
20.	Ammathi-Tithimathi Road ..	12–4	..	12–4	..	..	..
21	Virajpet-Vontiyangadi Road ..	5–6	..	5–1	0–5	..	..
22.	Siddapur-Mysore Road	11–0	..	11–0	..	..	..
23.	Gonikoppal-Wynad Road ..	23–4	..	23–4	..	..	..
24.	Kutta-Nagarahole Road	6–2	..	6-2	..	..	..

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25.	Hakathur-Abyatmangala Road ..	10-1	..	10-1	..	..	..
26.	Kadanga-Bellumadu-Napoklu Road .	9-5	..	..	9-5	..	..
27.	Napoklu-Bhagamandala Road ..	14-6	..	..	1-7	..	12-7
28.	Virajpet-Boikeri-Bhagavathi Temple Road ..	2-2	..	..	2-2	..	..
29.	Ponnampet-Kanur-Nittoor Road ..	14-3	..	..	5-0	1-6	7-5
30.	Sanivarasanthe-Bellarahalli-Mallipatna Road ..	2-6	..	1-6	1-0	..	.
31.	Somwarpet-Shanthalli-Kundalli Road ..	10-1	..	6-0	3-7	..	0-2
32.	Bhagamandala-Kariko Road ..	18-7	..	..	..	0-4	18-3
IV.	*Other District Roads.—*						
1.	Shanivarasanthe Chengadalli Road ..	4-0	..	3-4	0-4	..	..
2.	Arakalgud-Kodlipet Road ..	4-4	..	4-4	..	..	..
3.	Periambadi-Bittangala Road .	3-6	..	3-6	..	..	..
4.	Ponnampet-Echur-Hathur Road ..	6-6	..	1-0	3-0	..	2-6
5.	Pollibetta-Gonikoppal Road ..	4-7	..	4-7	..	..	..
6.	T. Shettigeri-Marenad Road ..	8-2	..	..	1-4	..	6-6
7.	Ammathi-Hosur-Gonikoppal Road	5-2	..	1-0	4-2	..	..
V.	*Village Roads.—*						
1.	Bittangala-Kuttiyala Road ..	8-4	..	..	8-2	..	0-2
2.	Ponnampet-Ponnappasanthe Road ..	6-0	..	..	4-4	..	1-4
3.	Kanur-Nagarhole Road ..	9-3	..	..	..	..	9-3
4.	Murnad-Balamuniparane Road ..	5-4	..	..	2-2	..	3-2
5.	Uduvathamotte Road	2-2	..	2-2	..	..	..
6.	Konnankatte-Tithimathi Road ..	4-0	..	..	2-0	..	2-0
7.	Chembebellur-Kondangeri Road ..	5-6	..	..	..	..	5-6
8.	Hathur-Kummehole Road ..	5-6	.	..	..	..	5-6
9.	Murnad-Kumbaldal-Bettageri Road ..	6-0	..	..	..	..	6-0
10.	Kathlekad-Maragodu-Kondangeri Road .	9-1	..	..	..	..	9-1
11.	Harihara-Beliyamandur Road ..	8-0	..	..	..	..	8-0
12.	Yelakanur-Hosahalli Arrayoor-Heggala-Karkalli-Somwarpet Main Road ..	11-4	..	..	..	..	11-4
13.	Subramanya-Kadamakal Heggala Mercara Road ..	8-0	..	0-4	..	..	7-4
14.	Bhagamandala-Tala-Kaveri Road ..	5-1	..	2-3	2-6	..	..

LIST OF REST HOUSES AND DAK BUNGALOWS IN COORG

Sl. No.	*Name of the Bungalow and class*	*Location, Taluk and village*	*Approach road and distance from the nearest main road*	*Distance from the nearest railway station*	*Mileage of the point where the approach road branches off*	*Facilities like cook, utensils, furniture, water, light etc.,*	*Number of suites, etc.*	*Rates charged for the occupation of the Bungalow*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	(a) Circuit House —I.	Mercara	1¼ flgs. from Sudarshan Circle.	75 miles from Mysore.	One mile (Mercara to Mysore).	Water and light facilities, Cook, utensils, furniture and phone available.	Two rooms double	Rs. P. 6 00 per set of room.
	Names of places of interest nearby and distance—1. Raja seat to have a view of natural scene.							
	(b) Inspection Bungalow—I.	do	do	do	do	do ..	One room double and three rooms single	Rs. P. 2 50 per day
	Names of places of interest nearby and distance—2. *Omkareshwara Temple. These two are in the town proper.*							
2.	(a) Travellers' Bungalow—I. (b) Inspection Bungalow in the T B.	do	⅛ flg. from —M'lore road. 2¼ flgs. from Bus stand.	do	0/1 of Mercara-M'lore road.	do	5 rooms single 3 do 2 double	Rs. P. 3 50 per day *
3.	Inspection Bungalow—I.	Somwarpet	3 flgs. from Mercara-Kodlipet road.	53 miles from Hassan.	24/4 of Mercara—Kodlipet road.	do	2 Single rooms.	Rs. P. 3 50 per day. **

No.	Name and class	Place	Location	Distance	Milestone	Amenities	Accommodation	Rent
4.	Do —II	Sanivarasanthe. Somwarpet Taluk	1 flg. from Sanivarasanthe-Chengadally road.	40 miles from Hassan.	1/1 of S'santhe—Chengadally road.	do	2 Single rooms.	Rs. P. 2 50 ** per day
5	Travellers' Bungalow—I.	Kushalnagar S'pet Tk.	2 flgs. from Mercara-Mysore Road.	50 miles from Hassan. 53 miles from Mysore.	19/1 of Mercara-Mysore road.	do	2 double 2 single rooms.	Rs. P. 3 50 per day.

Names of places of interest nearby and distance—Kudige Milk Dairy Farm, Agricultural Farm 4 miles from Kushalnagar.

No.	Name and class	Place	Location	Distance	Milestone	Amenities	Accommodation	Rent
6.	Inspection Bungalow, Travellers' Bungalow—II.	Virajpet	2 flgs. from Bus stand.	60 miles from Mysore.	In town proper.	do (no bath rooms and no running water).	2 Single, 4 Single rooms.	Rs. P. 2 50 ** 2 50
7.	Inspection Bungalow —II.	Napoklu. Mercara Taluk.	3 flgs. from Bettagere-Napoklu Road.	..	In town	do (no light)	2 Single rooms.	2 50 **
8.	Inspection Bungalow, Travellers' Bungalow—II.	Ponnampet, Virajpet Taluk.	1 flg. from Gonikoppal Wynad road.	58 miles from Mysore.	2/6 of Gonikoppal-Wynad Road.	do (no running water).	1 Single 1 Single room.	2 50 ** 2 50
9.	Inspection Bungalow—II.	Srimangala, Virajpet Taluk.	1 flg. from Gonikoppal-Wynad Road.	72 miles from Mysore.	14/5 of Gonikoppal-Wynad Road.	do (no running water and light).	2 Single rooms.	2 50

Names of places of interest nearby and distance.—Irpu temple and water falls five miles from Srimangala.

No.	Name and class	Place	Location	Distance	Milestone	Amenities	Accommodation	Rent
10.	Inspection Bungalow—II.	Bhagamandala	1 mile from town	..	19/6 of Mercara-Bhagamandala Road.	do (no running water and light).	2 Single	2 50

Names of places of interest nearby and distance—Talakaveri temple five miles from Bhagamandala and Bhagandeswara temple in the town proper.

No.	Name and class	Place	Location	Distance	Milestone	Amenities	Accommodation	Rent
11.	Tourist Bungalow, Mercara, Class II	Mercara	4 Flgs. from Bus Stand.	76 Miles from Mysore.	1 Flg from 0/2 of Mercara, Kadamakal, Subramanya Road.	Water, Light, Cook, utensils, furniture and phone available	3 single 4 double rooms	6 00 10 00

[illegible] of the Bungalow will also prepare food on prior intimation

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

FROM the perusal of the census reports, it appears that the livelihood pattern of the district has more or less remained at a point where it was about half a century ago. *In 1911, it had been estimated that about 56 per cent of the population were found to be actively engaged in agriculture and pastoral occupations, as* against 57.7 per cent in 1951.

Livelihood Pattern.

According to the 1951 census, out of the total population of 2,29,405, 57.7 per cent or 1,30,901 persons were found to be dependent on agriculture. The census enumeration of the livelihood pattern was divided into eight classes with a broad division, *viz.*, agricultural and non-agricultural. The agricultural classes have been divided into four sub-divisions. They are cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned and their dependents, cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned and their dependents, cultivating labourers and their dependents and non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers and their dependents. Each one of these classes is further sub-divided into three divisions, *viz.*, self-supporting persons, non-earning dependents and earning dependents. The details given below show the distribution of the agricultural livelihood classes in 1951.

		Men	*Women*
(1) Cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned and their dependents—			
Self-supporting persons	..	14,965	2,069
Non-earning dependents	..	23,191	34,972
Earning dependents	..	1,131	1,250
Total	..	39,247	38,291

	Men	*Women*
(2) Cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned and their dependents—		
Self-supporting persons ..	5,194	993
Non-earning dependents ..	6,324	9,395
Earning dependents ..	505	660
Total ..	12,023	11,048
(3) Cultivating labourers and their dependents—		
Self-supporting persons ..	8,116	2,258
Non-earning dependents ..	5,383	6,552
Earning dependents ..	750	1,474
Total ..	14,249	10,284
(4) Non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers and their dependents—		
Self-supporting persons ..	1,229	823
Non-earning dependents ..	2,019	2,972
Earning dependents ..	83	62
Total ..	3,331	3,857

Non-agricultural classes have been divided according to persons (including dependents) who derive their principal means of livelihood from production (other than cultivation), commerce, transport and other services and miscellaneous sources, and the details are given below :—

	Men	*Women*
(1) Production (other than cultivation)—		
Self-supporting persons ..	20,006	7,812
Non-earning dependents ..	9,847	13,372
Earning dependents ..	1,200	2,222
Total ..	31,053	23,406
(2) Commerce—		
Self-supporting persons ..	2,576	117
Non-earning dependents ..	2,149	2,835
Earning dependents ..	159	48
Total ..	4,884	3,000

	Men	Women
(3) Transport—		
Self-supporting persons ..	874	1
Non-earning dependents ..	410	776
Earning dependents ..	28	19
Total ..	1,312	796
(4) Other services and miscellaneous sources—		
Self-supporting persons ..	11,671	2,436
Non-earning dependents ..	7,056	10,366
Earning dependents ..	501	534
Total ..	19,228	13,336

It is clear from the above figures that the number of economically active persons was not very considerable. The district being mainly agricultural, pressure on the soil was enormous. As said earlier, 57.7 per cent of the total population were engaged in agriculture in 1951, of which 33.8% were owner-cultivators, 10.1% tenant-cultivators. 10.7% cultivating labourers and 3.1% non-cultivating owners. So far as industries were concerned, persons engaged in them were 23.7% of the total population of the district. The Census Report of 1951 mentions that there were no large-scale industries in the district and the number of small-scale industries was 22 of which 12 were registered under section 2(M) (i) and 2(M) (ii) of the Factories Act, 1948. In 1951, the persons engaged in commerce and transport constituted 3.5 and 0.9%, respectively.

Though details of population according to livelihood category as disclosed by the 1961 census are not yet available (as the District Census Hand Book is yet to be published), some statistics are to be found in the 1961 census report.[1] The 1961 census, unlike the previous censuses, has broadly classified the population under two heads, *viz.*, workers and non-workers. The following table shows the total number of workers and non-workers in Coorg district as per the 1961 census.

1. Census of India, Paper No. 1 of 1962, 1961 Census, Final Population Totals.

1961 CENSUS—FINAL POPULATION TOTALS

Category		Men	Women	Total
(1) Workers	..	1,00,419	51,087	1,51,506
(2) Non-workers	..	72,919	98,404	1,71,323
Total	..	1,73,338	1,49,491	3,22,829

It is seen from the above, that out of a total population of 3,22,829, more than 50% are non-workers. The workers have been further classified under nine sub-heads as follows :—

Workers	Men	Women
(1) Cultivators	28,728	19,705
(2) Agricultural labourers ..	11,727	7,388
(3) Mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations, orchards and allied activities	27,908	17,119
(4) Household industry.. ..	2,100	732
(5) Manufacturing other than household industry	4,333	560
(6) Construction	3,688	388
(7) Trade and Commerce ..	4,917	171
(8) Transport, storage and communications	1,425	1
(9) Other services	15,593	5,023
Total ..	1,00,419	51,087

Another feature of the 1961 census figures is the classification into urban and rural population with workers and non-workers and men and women break-ups and the following table relates to the same.

WORKERS

Area		Men	Women	Total
Rural	..	86,994	47,962	1,34,956
Urban	..	13,425	3,125	16,550
Total	..	1,00,419	51,087	1,51,506

NON-WORKERS

Area		Men	Women	Total
Rural	..	62,669	82,515	1,45,184
Urban	..	10,250	15,889	26,139
Total	..	72,919	98,404	1,71,323

The rural population of the district as per the 1961 census was 2,80,140 as against 2,13,150 in 1951. The urban population according to 1961 census was 42,689 as against 16,255 in 1951 which means an increase of 26,434 as between 1951 and 1961. It has been worked out that the percentage of the urban population to the total population in Coorg district as per 1961 census is 13.3 as against 7.1 in 1951. The population—both rural and urban—has been further sub-divided (in 1961 census) into nine categories as indicated below:—

RURAL

Workers	Men	Women
(1) Cultivators	27,867	19,200
(2) Agricultural labourers	11,246	6,903
(3) Mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations, orchards and allied activities	27,400	16,754
(4) Household industry.. ..	1,797	663
(5) Manufacturing other than household industry	2,517	414
(6) Construction	2,844	282
(7) Trade and Commerce ..	2,504	67
(8) Transport, storage and communications	585	1
(9) Other services	10,234	3,609
Total ..	86,994	47,962

URBAN

Workers	Men	Women
(1) Cultivators	861	496
(2) Agricultural labourers ..	481	425
(3) Mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations, orchards and allied activities	508	365

Workers	*Men*	*Women*
(4) Household activities ..	308	69
(5) Manufacturing other than household industry	1,816	146
(6) Construction	844	106
(7) Trade and commerce ..	2,413	104
(8) Transport, storage and communications	840	..
(9) Other services	5,359	1,414
Total ..	13,425	3,125

Miscellaneous Occupations.

A brief account of the employment of the people of the district of Coorg which could be grouped under miscellaneous occupations is necessary while assessing the economic trends of the area. Apart from persons engaged in industries, trade and commerce, transport and communications, and agriculture, a part of the population is engaged in other avocations such as public administration (*e.g.* doctors, engineers, lawyers and the like) and domestic services which could be grouped under one heading, *viz.*, miscellaneous occupations. According to the 1951 census, people in this category constituted 14.2 per cent of the total population. No detailed survey has been conducted so far about the occupational pattern of the district, and without such a survey, any attempt to describe the occupational groups would necessarily be limited. Added to this, though some figures of the 1961 census are published, occupation-wise figures are not yet available. Therefore, an attempt may be made to give a broad outline of them with the help of the 1951 census figures.

Public Administration.

The total number of persons engaged in health, education and public administration according to the 1951 census was 1,739 men and 181 women. The break-up is as follows:—

Occupation	*Men*	*Women*
(1) Medical and other health services:		
Employers ..	6	..
Employees ..	138	67
Independent workers ..	53	1
Total ..	197	68

Occupation		Men	Women
(2) Educational services and Research :			
Employers	..	..	..
Employees	..	505	91
Independent workers	..	..	..
Total	..	505	91
(3) Police (other than village watchmen).			
Employers	..	..	..
Employees	..	202	..
Independent workers	..	..	..
Total	..	202	..
(4) Village officers and servants including village watchmen :			
Employers	..	..	..
Employees	..	72	..
Independent workers	..	..	..
Total	..	72	..
(5) Municipalities and local boards :			
Employers	..	..	..
Employees	..	52	1
Independent workers	..	..	..
Total	..	52	1
(6) Employees of State Government :			
Employees	..	543	20
Total	..	543	20
(7) Employees of the Union Government :			
Employees	..	165	1
Total	..	165	1

It can be seen from the statistics given above that women in such employment are very small in number. Persons engaged in public administration, when compared to persons engaged in private employment, get some extra benefits like free medical facilities and, in some cases, free living quarters. The largest number of persons are in the service of the State Government and in educational services and research. Since the 1951 census, there has been an expansion of Government departments, particularly in the police service and in the Community Development Blocks. As a consequence of this, the number of employees under the above categories will show an increase which is likely to be disclosed in the 1961 census report.

As early as 1951, the joint conference of Central and State statisticians had recommended that a continuous series of figures relating to volume of employment should be made available by the State Statistical Bureau through periodical collection, at least once a year. Realising the importance of this, the State Directorate of Statistics is conducting since 1959 annual serveys of persons employed in Government service. The reports of the surveys conducted in 1959 and 1960 were published in 1961 and 1962 respectively. The reports show, among other things, the distribution of Government employees in the district by category and tenure of appointment and the distribution of employees according to their native district, *viz.*, Coorg. The details are given below :—

TABLE 1.

Distribution of Government employees as on 31st March [illegible] working in Coorg District by category and tenure of appointment.

Category	*Permanent*	*Temporary*	*Not stated*
Gazetted ..	64	13	3
Non-Gazetted ..	1211	508	945
Class IV ..	301	299	292
Total ..	1,576	820	1,240

TABLE 2

Distribution of Government employees as on 31st March 19[illegible] according to their native district, *viz.*, Coorg.

	Gazetted	*Non-Gazetted*	*Class IV*	*All*
Number ..	62	2,464	690	3,216
Percent (to State Total) ..	1.9	2.5	1.9	2.[illegible]

TABLE 3

Distribution of Government employees as on 31st March 1960 by category of appointment.

	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Total
Mercara ..	16	30	830	530	1,406
Coorg District (excluding Mercara) ..	3	22	2,235	691	2,951
Total ..	19	52	3,065	1,221	4,357

TABLE 4

Distribution of employees as on 31st March 1960 according to class of appointment and district of birth (Coorg District).

	Gazetted	Non-Gazetted
Class I ..	16	..
Class II ..	52	..
Class III ..	..	3,031
Class IV ..	..	907
Total ..	68	3,938

It is clear from the above tables that there were in 1959, 3,636 State Government employees of whom 80 were gazetted employees, 2,664 non-gazetted and 892 Class IV servants. The corresponding figures for 1960 were 4,357 (total), 71 (gazetted) 3,065 (non gazetted) and 1,221 (Class IV), respectively. The total number of State Government employees as per the 1951 census was 1,917 only. Thus, there is a steady increase in the number of State Government employees in the district.

Learned Professions.

Persons under this category are lawyers, educationists, engineers, writers, journalists and the like. The District Census Hand Book of Coorg, 1951, has included them under services not elsewhere specified. According to the census handbook, 1951, the number of persons engaged in the services not elsewhere specified was 7,607 men and 1,970 women. The following statement gives the number of persons engaged in the learned professions in the district of Coorg in 1951 :—

Occupations		*Men*	*Women*
(1) Arts, Letters and Journalism :			
Employers	..	..	..
Employees	..	2	..
Independent workers	..	9	..
Total	..	11	..
(2) Religious, charitable and welfare services :			
Employers	..	5	..
Employees	..	177	7
Independent workers	..	73	..
Total	..	255	7
(3) Recreation Services :			
Employers	..	1	..
Employees	..	157	10
Independent workers	..	29	4
Total	..	187	14
(4) Legal and business services :			
Employers	..	10	..
Employees	..	119	..
Independent workers	..	7	..
Total	..	136	..

Domestic and Personal Services.

The number of persons engaged in domestic and personal services, according to the 1951 census, was as follows :—

(1) Services otherwise unclassified :			
Employers	..	15	...
Employees	..	4,392	1,406
Independent workers	..	140	..
Total	..	4,547	1,406

Occupations		Men	Women
(2) Domestic services (but not including services rendered by members of family house-holds to one another).			
Employers	..	..	..
Employees	..	1,011	371
Independent workers	..	..	..
Total	..	1,011	371
(3) Barbers and beauty shops :			
Employers	..	7	..
Employees	..	30	..
Independent workers	..	149	..
Total	..	186	..
(4) Laundries and laundry services :			
Employers	..	17	1
Employees	..	36	12
Independent workers	..	214	50
Total	.	267	63
(5) Hotels, restaurants and eating houses :			
Employers	..	130	1
Employees	..	647	6
Independent workers	..	224	12
Total	..	1,007	19

The general economic standard of the persons engaged in domestic and personal services may be said to have improved in the last one or two decades and particularly so on account of the progress achieved under the successive five-year plans. It is expected that there will be further improvement in the living standards of the people in the coming years.

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Socio-economic Survey.

COORG is situated in the midst of the Western Ghats, having a general altitude of over 3,000 feet above sea level and an average rainfall of about 2,500 mm. a year. The rapid flowing rivers and the hill streams naturally make the task of land improvement by no means easy. In any assessment of the economic potential and the targets to be achieved on a planned basis, the main avocations or the occupations of the people in the area have to be taken into consideration. The livelihood pursuits are closely related to the economic potentialities that are found in the district. Several factors like the amount of natural wealth, availability of agricultural products and the natural aptitude of the population go to build up the economic wealth of a particular region. Several other items like the accumulated savings of the people, the credit-worthiness of the area and the institutional advantages also provide an index to the economic well-being of that particular area.

Man-power Resources.

The man-power resource available in the district forms the foundation for its economic regeneration. The population of the Coorg district which was 1,80,607 in 1901 decreased to 1,68,726 in 1941 and increased to 2,29,405 in 1951. The population according to the latest census is 3,22,829* of which the rural population is 2,80,140 and urban 42,689. The male population in 1961 was 1,73,338 and the female population was 1,49,491. Although the population showed an increase of 60,769 between 1941 and 1951 and 93,424 between 1951 and 1961, there was a decline between 1901 and 1941. The fluctuation in the population is due to the estate labour that periodically migrates to the estates of Coorg from Kerala and the contiguous Mysore districts, particularly Hassan and Mysore, and goes back after a season of work. Though the overall population has increased to nearly three and a quarter lakhs in 1961, it cannot be taken to be an indication that man-power wealth is abundant in the district,

* 1961 Census figures are given according to Census of India, Paper No. 1 of 1962, 1961 Census, Final Population Totals.

since a good proportion of the population has come to work in the plantation areas. Labour in the plantation areas almost always comes from outside. There is a preponderance of Kerala labour in the coffee estates.

Urbanisation.

The urban population according to the 1961 census is only 42,689 and this is scattered in towns like Mercara, Virajpet, Somwarpet, Suntikoppa, Gonikoppal, Kushalnagar, Sanivarsanthe and Ponnampet. The number of towns in the district is only ten. It can be inferred, therefore, that the district of Coorg is mainly agricultural, the percentage of agricultural population being 57.7 (1951). According to the 1951 census, the number of owner-cultivators in Coorg was 77,538 forming 33.8% of the total population. The number of tenant cultivators was 23,071 *i.e.*, 10.1% of the total population. The cultivating labourers formed 10.7% of the total population, *i.e.*, 24,533 in number. The total agricultural population in 1951 in Coorg district, including the non-cultivating owners who formed only 3.8% of the total population of the district, was 1,32,330 which worked out to 57.7% of the total population of the district. These figures indicate that Coorg is mainly a farming area and that a large portion of the population lives in rural areas. The towns are not large, nor have they grown in recent years.

Cultivated area.

The cultivated area of the district in 1962-63 was 2,37,213 acres out of a total geographical area of 10,11,685 acres. The forest area was 3,30,240 acres. The forest portion of the district was about one-third of the total area. The forests are rich in timber, sandal, bamboo and other species and, indeed, these forests are nature's bounty to the district. A Coorg bamboo jungle in the olden days struck the foreign visitor with its elegance and beauty. Captain Basil Hall, who in 1813 entered Coorg from Mysore by way of Siddapur and Virajpet, thus gives his first impression of a bamboo jungle. "It seemed as if I were travelling among the clustered columns of some enormous and enchanted Gothic cathedral. The ground extended on all sides as smooth and flat and clear of underwood as if the whole had been paved with grave stones. From this level surface rose on every hand and as far as the eye could penetrate into the forest, immense symmetrical clusters of bamboo, varying in diameter at their base from six feet to 20 or 30 as I ascertained by actual measurement. For about eight to ten feet from the ground each of these clusters or columns preserved a form nearly cylindrical after which they began gradually to swell outwards, each bamboo assuming for itself a graceful curve and rising to the height, some of 60, some of 80 and some even of 100 feet in the air, the extreme end being at times horizontal or even drooping gently over, like the tips of the feathers in the Prince of Wales' plume. Those gorgeous clusters stood at a distance of 15 or 20 yards from one another, and being totally free from the interruption of brushwood,

could be distinguished at a great distance, more than a mile certainly, in every direction forming under the influence of an active imagination, naves and trancepts, aisles and choirs, such as none but a Gothic architect ever dared to conceive ...... ".[1] These beautiful forests and the other forests yielding teak, sandalwood and other high class timbers are the real wealth of the district. In terms of square miles, the area under forests in Coorg is about 520 as against the total area of 1,590.0 square miles of the district, *i.e.*, about one-third of the total area. The total area of ever-green forests in Coorg is about 300 square miles. These forests are situated in the ghats, both on the eastern and western sides. In the First Five-Year Plan, no schemes for the development of forests were included but in the Second Five-Year Plan some schemes were drawn up and speedily executed. A sum of Rs. 7.75 lakhs was spent on forest development and 1,875 acres of land were afforested during the period with teak, matchwood and the like, in addition to normal forest operations. Programmes under the Third Five-Year Plan are designed so as to conserve the forest wealth and to expand as well as to exploit it so as to increase the total revenue under forests. A total financial allocation of Rs. 23.00 lakhs[2] is proposed in the plan for the various schemes which are being speedily implemented.

In respect of agriculture, Coorg affords opportunities for a fuller and more sustained growth of food crops. The abundance of rainfall and the retentivity of moisture in the soil go to enhance the productivity of the fields. The district of Coorg is principally a grain-growing area, about 1,20,000 acres (1962-63) of the total cropped area being under a variety of food crops. The main food crops grown in the district are paddy, ragi, and some pulses. The chief plantation crop is, of course, coffee which has a total acreage of 86,775 acres (1962-63). The paddy crop is grown in an area of 1,12,541 acres. Oranges and cardamom are Coorg's chief garden wealth. Oranges are raised on a total of 28,153 acres while cardamom accounts for 15,245 acres.

Irrigational Trends.

In respect of irrigation, the only project which was allotted to the district in the Second Five-Year Plan was the Lakshmanathirtha storage and canal project[3]. Besides this, the Harangi project has been taken up during the Third Five-Year Plan. The former Coorg Government had plans to utilise the waters of the river Lakshmanathirtha for the benefit of the paddy crop. The project, though thought of in 1893, could not be implemented

1. Quoted in Gazetteer "Mysore and Coorg", Vol. III, "Coorg" by Lewis Rice, 1878, pp. 18—19.

2. Report of the Third Five-Year Plan of Coorg District. Planning, Housing and Social Welfare Department, Government of Mysore, 1963.

3. For details also see chapter IV of this Gazetteer.

owing to financial difficulties. For a speedier execution of this project, an estimate was prepared in 1942 and it was further revised in 1945. The scheme contemplated the construction of an anicut below the confluence of Lakshmanathirtha and Ramathirtha rivers with canals on both sides. This project which was expected to irrigate 3,167 acres of land was included under the Second Five-Year Plan and was continued during the Third Plan. An expenditure of Rs. 8.51 lakhs was incurred on this project during the Second Five-Year Plan and Rs. 11.74 lakhs have been provided for the Third Plan period. Irrigation by means of wells is not in vogue because of the hilly nature of Coorg. Even the so-called tanks are nothing but ponds where the rain water is stored for agricultural purposes. In 1961-62, the area under irrigation due to the facilities provided by the Government was about 9,500 acres. The total area under irrigation by Government canals, private canals, tanks, wells and other sources was about 15,000 acres. The total irrigated area in the district has since risen to about 21,000 acres. The increase is mainly due to the betterment of minor irrigation schemes, sponsored under the plan schemes.

Taking an overall picture, the agricultural programmes under the successive plans have been noteworthy. Increase in acreage under food crops and corresponding rise in output were achieved in this period. Taking advantage of irrigational facilities, an additional acreage of about 12,000 was brought under cultivation with an additional output of 1,400 tons of food grains. In the development of wet land farming, several methods for moisture and soil conservation have been attempted. The total area under paddy was 1,12,541 acres in 1962-63, the outturn being about 2,500 lbs. per acre. There has been a sustained effort to increase the yield of paddy on the same lines which are being attempted in Japan and China. Improved strains which give higher yield have been popularised and the cultivators have not been behind in utilising the fruits of agricultural research. There is scope to increase the yield of paddy and also to extend the paddy acreage. Within the means and resources of this district, both short and long-term plans have been evolved, with special reference to the development of irrigation, improvement of cattle wealth, a more general utilisation of seeds of improved strains, facilities for rural finance, crop surveys, development of manurial resources, reforms in the direction of consolidation of holdings, better organisation of co-operative societies and the development of cottage industries. After paddy, the most important crop in Coorg is coffee. The area under coffee cultivation rose from 38,886 acres in 1943-44 to 40,938 acres in 1945-46. During 1962-63, the acreage was 86,775. Coffee is the chief commercial product of the district and the interest evinced by the growers in recent years to step up production has been remarkable. More areas have been brought under coffee cultivation and the outturn is also bigger. Cardamom which accounted for an area of 3,911 acres in 1945-46 rose to

14,418.93 acres in 1960-61 and to 15,245 acres in 1962-63. Tea, pepper, areca and cashew are also grown in certain parts of Coorg though not on an extensive scale. The area under areca and cashew can be considerably extended in certain villages bordering South Kanara, with necessary encouragement in the shape of liberal grants of suitable land to the villagers. This is being done in recent years.

Oranges are grown in large quantities in Coorg (28,153 acres in 1962-63) and as it is found difficult to preserve them for use all the year round, it has been proposed to set up a plant for the extraction and preservation of orange juice. This plant is well under way. The Coorg Orange Growers' Co-operative Society has been handling the marketing of oranges.

Recently, the Animal Husbandry Department has introduced poultry farming, key village centres, artificial insemination methods and the like to improve the countryside.

Agricultural holdings.

The total number of holdings in the district is 51,523 of which 42,112 holdings fall under the category of holdings with extents below five acres. In the size group below five acres, the holdings cover an area of 1,27,790 acres which roughly comes to three acres per holding. But, according to the Coorg District Third Five-Year Plan Report the average size of the holding (taking into consideration all the holdings) is 6.1 acres. The holdings in the Virajpet taluk of the district are larger ranging from 10 to 200 acres, but there is considerable fragmentation. When compared to some other districts in the State where the average holding per holder is about one acre, the picture in Coorg is some-what different. Here, the average size of a holding is 6.1 acres, which cannot be said to be uneconomic.[1]

Occupational pattern.

The occupational pattern in Coorg is chiefly agricultural. Industrial activity in the district is confined only to some small-scale industries like bee-keeping, handloom-weaving, pottery and sericulture, the latter two having received attention only during the last decade. The absence of adequate power and other fuels has been a serious handicap to the growth of any large-scale industry. The abundance of forest wealth in the valleys and on the slopes of hills, no doubt, offers scope for starting a number of wood industries, but the paucity of power is hampering full-scale advancement. Recently, the starting of a match-wood industry has been undertaken. Some private individuals, after obtaining loans from Government, have taken up the work of starting some

1. Report of the Mysore Tenancy Agricultural Land Laws Committee, 1958, pp. 180 to 186.

small industrial establishments like hand-printing of cloth and toy-making. Pottery, mat-weaving, basket-making, carpentry and blacksmithy are some of the oldest occupations. The district is definitely backward industrially, but this backwardness is largely due to the insufficiency of electric power. Now that the district has hydel power supply, one can expect the starting of more industries in the near future.

Trade.

Trade and commerce in the district are mostly confined to towns like Virajpet, Mercara, Somwarpet, Kushalnagar, Suntikoppa, Gonikoppal and Sanivarasanthe, and to a lesser extent to big villages like Bhagamandala, Kudige and others. A fair percentage of the mercantile community is to be found in the urban areas. Generally, the import and export trade is handled by merchants from North Malabar. The retail trade is handled by a variety of traders most of whom have also come from outside the district. The trade becomes slower in the monsoon months but gets a spurt in the dry seasons. All available food grains for the use of the local population are stocked during the pre-monsoon months and briskness in trade is noticed in those months. As there are no railways in the district, roads are the only means of conveying the produce from far-flung areas. As the district has a large number of plantations, nearby urban areas have become centres of trade. These are Gonikoppal, Suntikoppa, Kushalnagar and Virajpet. Regular weekly shandies are held at these places for the benefit of the plantation workers. The Mercara bazaar and the Virajpet godowns are the principal stocking centres for food grains. The important trade links in Coorg are those with Kerala on the south-west, South Kanara on the north-west and Mysore on the east.

Finance.

Before the advent of institutional finance, rural credit was mainly supplied by money-lenders. These money-lenders continue to serve the needs of the rural population even at present. Banking in the modern sense came into prominence after 1922 when the Coorg State Co-operative Bank was started at Mercara, which is now called the "Coorg District Co-operative Central Bank". In 1934, the Canara Banking Corporation started a branch bank at Mercara. Afterwards, branches of other banks were also established and in 1964 there were ten branches of joint stock banks in the district. The co-operative movement in Coorg District which commenced as early as 1905 has reached a fairly high standard and has covered almost every village in the district. The number of co-operative institutions in 1962-63 was 450 and this indicates the popularity of the movement. The co-operative principle has permeated into all fields and this is a sure sign of the economic resurgence of the district. In addition to these co-operative facilities, the Government have launched

several schemes to render financial assistance to the farmers. Loans are also being liberally given to promote industries.

Planning.

During the First and Second Plan periods and also in the Third Five-Year Plan, the tempo of economic growth has, to a large extent, influenced the development activities in the district, whose main emphasis is on agricultural development. It was evident that without a large-scale development in the agricultural sector of the district, no appreciable progress could be achieved. Increased yields consequent on intensive farming methods have been noticed in paddy, cardamom and coffee. The tanks in the district depend entirely on the monsoons. Large sums have been earmarked to achieve the projected targets in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, small-scale industries and the like.

Economic minerals.

No systematic mineral survey of the district has been conducted, but selected portions have been surveyed. Coorg district is not noted for any richness of economic mineral deposits. There are a few deposits of mica, kyanite, iron ore and clay. The mica is found near Kushalnagar, near Marenad and Parakatageri and also about two miles west of Mercara. Kyanite in the form of small knots is found on the eastern slopes and western flanks of the mound near Katakeri village near Mercara. It is also found near Siddapur. The granites, gneisses and charnockites form excellent material for building purposes and as road ballast. The pink porphyritic granites take an excellent polish and are used for building and decorative purposes.

Power.

The development of industries is closely linked up with the availability of cheap and adequate electric power. In the district of Coorg, high hopes are being entertained by the people of developing the Barapole Hydro-Electric Project, a reconnaissance survey of which was conducted by the Madras Electricity Department in 1945. Though this survey discloses a number of hydel sites in Coorg, emphasis has been laid on the Barapole scheme which has scope for generating power between 30,000 to 40,000 K.W. Again, in 1953, Sri M. S. Thacker, Sri M. Narasimhaiya and Prof. N. S. Govinda Rao advised the then Government of Coorg to pursue the scheme in all earnestness. The project was further examined by Sri M. R. Krishna Murthy Rao, a Mysore engineer, who has drawn up a detailed blue print. Under the Third Five-Year Plan, it was proposed to take up the Barapole Project with an outlay of Rs. 20 lakhs, but due to financial difficulties and the high priority to be given to the other hydel projects in the State, it is now felt that this hydel project may be taken up in a future plan. In the event of the availability of cheap power, it is the desire of the State to set up industries such as the manufacture of essences, extraction of sandal oil and manufacture of soaps, as part of a long term plan. The State Electricity Board is at present supplying power from Jog to the district. The extension of electric power

to rural areas is going apace and this has encouraged the development of small-scale industries and lift irrigation. A financial outlay of 15.50 lakhs has been provided in the Third Five-Year Plan for implementation of several programmes of the State Electricity Board. It is proposed to construct transmission lines of about 117 miles at a cost of seven lakhs of rupees. It is also proposed to electrify 12 villages that are in the vicinity of the transmission lines at a cost of about five lakhs of rupees. Three stepdown stations at a cost of three and a half lakhs of rupees are to be constructed. As regards the progress of work, transmission line from Kushalnagar to Mercara *via* Suntikoppa has already been laid and lines between Suntikoppa and Virajpet and from Suntikoppa to Somwarpet are being laid. The construction of step-down stations at Suntikoppa and at Virajpet has now been commenced. At present, the entire Coorg District has hydel power and the existing diesel stations have been closed down.[1]

Communications.

Coorg is noted for its excellent ghat roads which have been the main routes from the old Mysore areas to the sea-coast towns of Calicut, Cannanore, Mangalore and Kasargode. There are no railways in the district; years ago, a proposal was mooted to construct a metre gauge line from Nanjangud in Mysore to Tellichery in Cannanore District in Kerala. This proposal has not been entirely abandoned and the people of Coorg have hopes that the scheme will materialise in the near future. If the district is connected by railway with neighbouring areas, it will mean an era of progress for that region. In the absence of railways, the 83 miles of State highways in the district afford easy access to Mangalore, Mysore and Malabar in Kerala. During the Third Five-Year Plan, it is proposed to make the Kushalnagar—Sampaje—Mangalore State Highway as a National Highway. The approximate length of this proposed National Highway will be 36 miles within the confines of the district. Road communications are fairly adequate in the district, linking all the taluks but in the field of inter-village communications, there is plenty to be done. Villages are situated deep in the valleys and these have to be linked up. With the completion of the West Coast road in the near future, the highways in Coorg will naturally gain in importance in so far as the passage of goods from the Mysore table-land to the coastal areas in South Kanara and Kerala is dependent on these roads.

Prices.

In Coorg, the average prices for agricultural produce in the latter part of the last century were very depressing to the producer; he produced enough but could not get a fair return. Many reasons have been advanced for this sorry state of affairs, the more important being lack of communications for marketing goods, absence of specific regulations in trade or commerce and possible glut of produce in a particular area due to lack of markets.

1. Position in January 1965.

Figures are available to show that in 1864, rice was selling in Coorg at 10 to 16 seers per rupee, ragi at 20 to 35 seers per rupee and salt from 10 to 22 seers per rupee.[1] The price quoted for rice was not always constant. In 1873, rice of the first sort was selling at 10 seers per rupee. In 1876, the price was 8.31 seers per rupee. In 1873, ragi was sold at 35.06 seers per rupee and it was selling at 16.42 seers per rupee in 1876. A decade later *i.e.*, in 1886, rice was sold in the Mercara market at 13.4 seers per rupee and in the next year was sold at 17.8 seers per rupee. It was only in 1892 that the price for rice was abnormal and this was due to seasonal scarcity. In that year, rice was sold at 9.8 seers per rupee. From 1892 to 1907, the average selling price for rice was between 10 and 12 seers per rupee. Ragi was 24.8 seers per rupee in 1896. In 1907, the selling rate was 17.12 seers per rupee.

Before the commencement of the First World War (1914), the average price of rice of good quality used to be eight seers per rupee. The increase in population, variations in the cropped area and the prices quoted for precious metals were the contributing factors for variations in prices. The price of rice which was 10 to 16 seers per rupee in 1864 was only eight seers in 1914. The years just before the out-break of the First World War saw the emergence of a peculiarly disadvantageous trend from the point of view of the consumer. He had to go on paying more and more for his daily food. The period of abnormal increase in prices, which became the order of the day, continued during the decade that followed the war. Due to changes in the financial policy of the Government, prices which were low in the days of the Great Depression began to rise again after 1935. Paper currency began to expand during the Second World War, with the concomitant evils of shrinkage in the supply of goods and a steep rise in prices. The price of rice in Coorg in 1940 was about four seers per rupee and ragi about six seers per rupee. With the rising intensity in the war theatres, the channels of food distribution became defective with the result that hoarders and profiteers began their unwholesome activities. Cornering of agricultural produce became common and consumers were put to misery and hardship. Along with the measures that were invoked to protect the consuming public, the Coorg administration took steps to check the evil tendencies in the trade. Controls in essential commodities were put into effect and informal rationing of foodgrains in urban areas was introduced. The movement of foodgrains from rural to urban areas was controlled. As Coorg was never a deficit area for rice, no rigid controls were envisaged in respect of that staple commodity. The informal rationing brought about a uniform distribution without injuring the rights

1. Lewis Rice, Mysore and Coorg Gazetteer, compiled for Government of India, Vol III, Coorg, 1878, p. 311.

of any particular class of people. Even though war ended in 1945, the prices of essential food commodities did not come down. A situation soon arose when the consumers' plight became almost intolerable. Even though controls on food stuffs were removed, the prices did not show any downward trend. The price of rice in 1961 was one-and-a-quarter seers per rupee and that of ragi was two and a half seers per rupee.

In order to check the upward trend in prices, several well-known remedies, including mopping up of the excess purchasing power in a section of the population, were resorted to. Banks were advised not to lend money on agricultural produce. The zonal movement of rice and the adjustments therein had their beneficial effect. To help the poor, the subsidised sale of foodgrains through co-operatives and fair price shops was resorted to. But, it must be noted that the shortfall in rice supplies did not seriously affect the people in Coorg as the area was small and the growth of population was not alarming. The large numbers who worked in plantations had also to be protected from the abnormal prices and the plantation-owners made their own arrangement to get adequate supplies at fairly reasonable prices. The safeguarding of producers' interests and at the same time protecting the consumers has been one among the several objectives of planning.

Wages.

It has been recorded in the Coorg Gazetteer compiled by Lewis Rice (1878) that agricultural labour was performed by slaves in the middle of the 19th century. Lt. Connor, whose observations have been noteworthy, had this to say in 1817. "The chief agricultural labours are performed by slaves or praedial servants; to whom the better class of ryots generally leave the operations of husbandry, merely superintending, as they are not often under the necessity of personally assisting. In Coorg proper, the farmer seldom finds it necessary to hire servants. In Yelusavira, however, it is more common. A labourer receives here for a day's hire, working from 7 o'clock till sunset, with some little intermission in the middle of the day, 2 ounces of rice, value about 3d; if engaged for the year he gets a blanket, two handkerchiefs, a coarse piece of cloth, 2 pagodas, and a daily meal of dressed rice at his master's house; if paid entirely in money, he receives something more than 6 pagodas, a sum exceedingly small when it is considered that more than two-thirds of it are required to support him; specie, however, is rarely given, rice being the general estimate of all labour and frequently entering into the smaller details of commerce". After the annexation of Coorg by the British, slavery was abolished. The rate of wages in 1878 was Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 per month for men and Rs. 3-12-0 to Rs. 4 for women and boys. The daily wage rate then was four to six annas for unskilled labour and for skilled labour it was twelve annas to one rupee.

The wage paid to hired labour for casual work has undergone various changes in Coorg. With the expansion of coffee estates, labourers from Kerala and Mysore poured in. At present, the wages paid are conditioned by the general rise in prices and according to official figures, skilled labour was getting in 1964 about Rs. 5 a day and unskilled labour Rs. 2 a day. But in coffee estates, the rates ranged from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 3-8-0 per day. The social security measures envisaged after independence have brought about a substantial increase in wages in the coffee industry as well as in privately managed business houses. The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, has assured better wages. Though the level of wages and salaries in many categories of service has improved. the rising cost of living has made the wage-earner live from hand to mouth. He is unable to balance his budget.

The wage structure in Coorg has undergone several changes. In the beginning, agricultural labourers used to be paid in kind. They are now being paid in cash. The wages began to register a rise during the First World War period. The Depression which swept the world in 1929 brought down the level of wages. After 1930, the wages increased in relation to productivity and other economic factors. In 1932-33, the skilled workers were paid Rs. 1-4-0 a day and the unskilled were paid ten annas per day. During the 1940's, there was a definite upward trend in wages. The wages, on an average of a skilled worker per day were between Rs 2 to Rs. 2-8-0 and those of unskilled between Re. 1 to Rs. 1-8-0. As said already, the rates of wages in 1964 were Rs. 5 per skilled worker per day and Rs. 2 a day for an unskilled worker.

Standard of Living

Before discussing the present standards of life of the people in the mountainous enclave of Coorg, it is pertinent to point out the fact that for several centuries they were self-sufficient in food and other normal amenities. The Rajas of Coorg did not encourage any development in communications with other areas lest it should interfere with the economy of the people. The rich valleys and hill slopes in Coorg afforded ample opportunities to develop agriculture, and paddy was the main staple grain grown in the area. In the latter part of the last century, coffee was planted in many parts of Coorg and the development of this plantation product helped many to earn more than what they were doing. The Coorgs who are the indigeneous people living in Coorg had always a better standard of living than those who came from outside for purposes of earning a wage. The standard of life of the Coorgs which is fairly high cannot be an index to the general pattern. There is not much of urbanisation in Coorg when compared to other districts in the State. But the educational advancement of the people is proceeding at a rapid pace. Plantation labour has grown in strength and the coffee prices are high giving a rich return to the owners who in turn share them

with the labourers. The introduction of prohibition in Coorg has also been responsible for a rise in the standard of life. People now spend more on food and clothing.

In order to determine the living standard of the people of a particular area, it is necessary to classify the population into several categories and assess their standard of life. For this purpose, the population may be classed as poor, middle-class and the rich. The bulk of the poor come from the wage-earning labour class. The middle-classes are those who have a fixed income in Government offices, private establishments, private trade or other occupations. The rich are those who have properties and a tidy income from their assets.

In the rural areas, the landless agricultural labourers constitute an important group. As they have no land of their own, they have perforce to work in other farms on a daily wage. As the farming practices in Coorg are seasonal, this class finds it difficult to get enough work in the lean periods. Most of the plantation labourers have to remain idle in the monsoon months. The landless labourer who has a family consisting of his wife and three children gets an income ranging from Rs. 40 to Rs. 60 a month. The wife also may be employed in which case she brings some amount ranging between Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 a month. The items of expenditure are Rs. 40 for food per month and Rs. 20 for other items. Mostly, the family budget of this group cannot balance itself as the expenditure exceeds the income on special occasions. The small holders who have an acre or two are in no way better. The living standards of the landless agricultural labourer and the small holders are almost the same.

In Coorg, there are several land owners who have five acres and above. The average family in this group comprises six to eight persons. The income is derived from farm produce valued at about Rs. 600 per year, livestock produce valued at Rs. 100 per year and income from other sources valued at Rs. 100. The total income for a year comes to Rs. 800. This is what an agricultural labourer also gets in a year. The items of monthly expenditure are Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 for food and Rs. 20 for other items.

The wage-earning labourers in urban areas are in no way better than a small agricultural holder. The urban labourers are those who work in the houses of the well-to-do, and get a monthly wage. There are also office servants and messenger boys in private establishments. The average monthly income of this group is somewhere between Rs. 50 and Rs. 60. In contrast with the corresponding class in the rural areas, the urban labourer spends more on clothes and entertainment.

The plantation labourer who works whole-time in coffee estates gets a monthly income of Rs. 60 to 80 per month. Gene-

rally, women also work as labourers. This class who were once addicted to toddy are now having a better standard because of prohibition. The estate labour is mostly drawn from Kerala. Though they have a better income now than in the past, they are often indebted. This fact has to be noted in any description of living standards.

The middle-class group in towns like Mercara, Virajpet and Somwarpet has an income ranging from Rs. 150 to Rs. 400 per month. A considerable slice of this income goes towards house rent and education of children. Some in this group own their houses also. The living standard of this group is not very satisfactory. As they have no additional sources of income, they have a difficult task in balancing their budget, sometimes by running into debt.

Independent professions like medicine, law and business have grown in recent years. Practising lawyers, medical men and private businessmen earn more than persons belonging to the upper-middle class. There are perceptible fluctuations in the earning capacity of these people as they have to face competition in their respective professions. The average monthly income of this group ranges from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,500.

The well-to-do in Coorg are those who own coffee estates and orange orchards. These properties are largely owned by the Coorgs. Rich families of the Coorgs have adopted modern standards of life; they live in big bungalows, possess cars and radios and employ a number of servants. They enjoy all the comforts of the modern age.

There cannot be any set standard in the living conditions of the people. The cost of living index has shown a steady upward trend in recent years. Taking the base year as 1935-36 (100). the cost of living index for food in Mercara in 1960 was 523.3.

With 1953 as the base year (100), the working class consumer indices at Mercara during 1955 to 1961 were as follows :—

Year	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Food	96.5	109.1	118.5	127.0	131 7	142.0	144.0
General	102.3	104.1	113.6	120.5	125.5	133.0	138.0

This indicates the rise which has seriously affected the living standards of the people.

Shift from Agriculture to Industry.

As has been discussed in the course of the chapter on "Industries", the district of Coorg offers possibilities of starting several small-scale industries and a few large-scale industries connected with a fuller exploitation of the forest resources. At present, there are no large-scale industries in the district, and the shift from agriculture to industry is naturally not marked nor is there much of a shift from one industry to another. Under the successive plans, more industries are expected to come up and when they are established, there is bound to be some shift from agriculture to industry. At present, agriculture is the predominant occupation in the district and the development of agriculture side by side with industrial development is the objective of planning in the district.

Employment Exchange

The District Employment Exchange which was started at Mercara by the Government of India on 1st May 1949 came under the control of the Mysore Government after the States' Reorganisation in 1956. The figures given below give some idea of the work done in the Employment Exchange between 1949 and 1956.

Year		*Registrations*	*Placements*
1949	..	768	194
1950	..	1,805	495
1951	..	2,579	1,223
1952	..	1,930	593
1953	..	2,625	739
1954	..	2,577	483
1955	..	2,979	570
1956	..	3,191	684

The following statement gives details of registrations and placements from 1957 to 1961 with details of placements effected by the Employment Exchange.

Year	*Number of registrations during the year*	*Number of placements effected by the Employment Exchange*				*Total*
		Central Government	*State Government*	*Local Bodies and Quasi-Government*	*Others*	
1957	2,316	14	397	15	12	438
1958	2,290	0	539	25	20	590
1959	2,504	10	696	31	14	751
1960	2,517	14	668	15	7	704
1961	2,311	4	706	17	4	731
1962	2,348	5	802	16	3	826
1963	2,232	3	824	42	2	871

Community development.

Community development is a process designed to create conditions of economic and social progress for the whole community with the fullest possible reliance upon its initiative. It implies the integration of two sets of forces making for human welfare, neither of which can do the job alone, (i) the opportunity and capacity for co-operation, self-help, ability to assimilate and adopt new and better ways of living, and (ii) the fund of techniques and skills in every social and economic field drawn from world-wide experience, and now in use or available to the Government and other agencies. It is one of the most significant development programmes for improving rural life.

The Community Development programme was started in the country on 2nd October 1952 with the establishment of 55 Community Projects in various parts of India. Three of these were located in the present Mysore State. Coorg was allotted one Development Block comprising Sanivarasanthe and Fraserpet (Kushalnagar) hoblies and Somwarpet Nad. Thus, Coorg had the advantage of getting a Development Block in the very first batch of community projects.

"N.E.S. is the agency and the Community Development the method through which the Five-Year Plans seek to initiate a process of transformation of the social and economic life of the villages".[1] Thus, this new movement symbolises an integrated extension agency, a multi-purpose development programme, new extension methods and techniques of community mobilisation and a process of education.

The multi-purpose programme of the Community Development Blocks is meant to bring about an intensive and diversified development. It includes schemes for the development of agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operation, rural industries, health and sanitation, rural communication, education and social reform. Thus, it is a comprehensive covering of all aspects of rural life. The Block budget contains financial provision in respect of all these programmes. The community projects were later on replaced by N.E.S. blocks; then intensive and post-intensive stages of these blocks; and to-day the accepted system consists of the I Stage, the II Stage and the post-stage II Blocks. But at all times, the Community Development programme was characterised by its comprehensiveness, simultaneously including the livelihood aspect, the amenity aspect and the social recreation aspect of rural life. Over the years, however, the emphasis of this programme has undergone a change and the centre of gravity has shifted from the mere amenity aspect to the more urgent aspects of economic development.

1. National First Plan, p.223.

Another significant change that has come about is that the Block Programme is no longer confined merely to the schemes to be implemented from the Block budget. The Block budget has to be considered as only a nucleus to be supplemented with the development resources of all other development departments as well as local resources so that an integrated programme is built up out of the total resources available. It is out of this process of integration that the new idea of treating the Block as a unit of planning and development has emerged. The implementation of this idea has meant the formation of an overall Block plan in respect of all the development activities in the Block.

The next important aspect of this movement was the development of an Extension Agency. It was recognised that the solution of rural problems requires simultaneous efforts on all fronts. Hence a comprehensive programme was designed. But, the implementation of a comprehensive programme simultaneously on all fronts requires an integrated and not a fragmental approach to rural development. That was why the Grow More Food Enquiry Committee felt the need of a team of Extension Officers assigned to the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operation, rural industries, rural engineering, panchayats and social education. It is led by the Block Development Officer for the implementation of the Block Programme as a whole. This new administrative machinery is characterised not only by its integrated approach but also by its identification with the popular aspirations of the rural folk. Indeed, for the first time a new functionary has come to be the key to the entire rural development programme, namely, the Village Level Worker. A block normally consists of 100 villages divided into 10 circles, each under a Village Level Worker who is the multi-purpose worker dealing with all developmental programmes at the village level. No longer is it necessary for the villager to feel that he is driven from pillar to post in search of Government's assistance. The Village Level Worker has come to be recognised as a friend, philosopher and guide to the villager in all walks of life.

The Community Development programme which was initiated on 2nd October 1952 in the country was launched in Coorg district with the inauguration of Somwarpet Block. In October 1953, one more Community Development Block covering Mercara, Bhagamandala, Napoklu and Suntikoppa Nads and a National Extension Block comprising Virajpet, Ammathi, Ponnampet and Srimangala Nads were allotted. With these, the whole of Coorg district was brought under the intensive development programme. At the close of the First Five-Year Plan, as the entire district had been brought under the development programme, allotment of new blocks during the Second Plan did not arise There are now three blocks covering the whole of Coorg. The entire taluk of Somwarpet with 121 villages covering an area of 386 square miles and

a population of 1,09,417 (1961), the Mercara taluk with 68 villages covering an area of 566 square miles and a population of 79,540 (1961) and Virajpet taluk consisting of 88 villages with an area of 638 square miles with a population of 1,33,872 (1961), are now under post-stage II. Both Somwarpet and Mercara blocks entered the II stage from 1st April 1958. The Block of the Virajpet taluk known as Ponnampet Block, with the Block headquarters at Ponnampet, entered the second stage from 1st April 1959. The Somwarpet block entered post-stage II on 1st April 1963. The Mercara and Ponnampet blocks were converted into post-stage II blocks on 1st April 1964. Thus, all the three blocks are now under post-stage II.

Progress achieved under the First and Second Five-Year Plans :—Under the programmes of animal husbandry and agricultural extension in the Somwarpet Block, a sum of Rs. 74,130 was spent as against the allotment of Rs. 98,000. Two artificial insemination centres, three veterinary dispensaries and two poultry farms were started. On the agricultural side, loans to the extent of Rs. 15,000 were sanctioned for the construction of seven godowns. In addition, supply of seed paddy, implements for demonstration purposes and supply of fruit plants were arranged along side the normal activities of the Agriculture and Veterinary Departments. In the Mercara Block, against a provision of Rs. 74,000, an expenditure of Rs. 42,000 was incurred. Two key village centres, one artificial insemination centre, two veterinary dispensaries and one poultry farm were started. Under agriculture, six godowns at a cost of Rs. 12,000 were constructed. In the Ponnampet Block, a sum of Rs. 75,000 was spent against the allotment of Rs. 93,000. Three artificial insemination centres, one poultry farm and two veterinary dispensaries were started. On the agricultural side, a sum of Rs. 50,000 was advanced as loan for the construction of two godowns. Under irrigation in all the three blocks, various works such as construction of anicuts and restoration of tanks were undertaken by the Government, as no individuals came forward to obtain loans for such works due to uneconomic holdings. The co-operation of the villages in digging up channels was readily forthcoming. In the Somwarpet Block, the provision of Rs. 4.90 lakhs was fully utilised for the construction of 71 irrigation works such as anicuts, regulators, pick-up weirs, renovation of tanks and digging up of channels. In Mercara Block, 30 works of various categories were completed with an expenditure of Rs. 1.34 lakhs. In the Ponnampet Block, 54 works such as anicuts, regulators and channels were completed. Five lift irrigation schemes were taken up during the First Plan and were completed under the Second Plan at a cost of Rs. 2.22 lakhs. All these are run on co-operative basis.

Under the programme of rural health and sanitation, no hospitals or dispensaries were started under the scheme, but

buildings were put up. Against a provision of Rs. 2.49 lakhs, a sum of Rs. 2.07 lakhs was spent for twelve works, such as hospital buildings, medical staff quarters, market stalls, drainage works and water supply schemes in the Somwarpet Block. In addition, 60 drinking wells were completed in the various villages of the block. In the Mercara Block, a sum of Rs. 79,700 was spent for the construction of six hospitals and dispensaries, and 20 drinking water wells. In the Ponnampet Block, an expenditure of about Rs. 76,000 was incurred against the allotment of Rs. 98,000. One hospital building, two medical staff quarters and one market stall were constructed. Thirty-five drinking water wells were completed in the entire block.

Under the important programme of education and social education, the following activities were carried out. As the district had sufficient number of primary and middle schools but with very poor accommodation, the scheme under education was mainly concentrated in providing the required accommodation by putting up additional buildings. In the Mercara Block, against the allotment of Rs. 1.5 lakhs, a sum of Rs. 1.34 lakhs was spent for the construction of 32 middle and primary school buildings. On the social education side, 32 adult literacy classes and 36 community recreation centres were started. In the Somwarpet Block, an expenditure of Rs. 2.41 lakhs was incurred for the construction of 33 primary and middle school buildings. On the social education side, 69 adult literacy classes, 27 community recreation centres and 10 reading rooms were opened spending about Rs. 22,000. In the Ponnampet Block, construction of 20 middle and primary schools was completed. Against an allotment of rupees one lakh, Rs. 79,000 were spent. Under social education, a sum of about Rs. 33,000 was spent for opening adult literacy classes, community recreation centres and reading rooms.

All over the three blocks as many as 103 community receiving sets, financed under the Community Development Scheme, and the Government of India 50 per cent subsidy scheme were installed.

Under the programme for the improvement of communications in the Somwarpet Block, a sum of Rs. 2.88 lakhs was spent for the construction of 11 bridges, seven culverts and causeways and improvement of roads. In the Mercara Block, Rs. 97,000 were spent against the allotment of Rs. 1.52 lakhs for seven bridges, ten culverts and improvement of roads in two cases. In the Ponnampet Block, Rs. 1.51 lakhs were spent for 55 works of various categories like bridges, culverts, causeways and improvement of roads. All over the three blocks, an approximate length of 1,300 miles of village communication roads, which were being maintained by the District Board prior to its becoming defunct in 1959, were improved by the villagers with the help of the community labour, receiving only a nominal grant.

Under the housing scheme, apart from the construction of quarters for the project staff, loans for rural housing were advanced in all the three blocks through the village co-operative societies. A sum of Rs. 2.58 lakhs was advanced as loans for this purpose. A sum of Rs. 1.85 lakhs against the provision of Rs. 2.14 lakhs in the Somwarpet Block, Rs. 1.40 lakhs against Rs. 1.75 lakhs in the Mercara Block and Rs. 1.56 lakhs against Rs. 1.72 lakhs in the Ponnampet Block were spent under this head.

People's participation

The people's participation in the implementation of the Community Development Programme has been encouraging. It is only due to the enthusiasm and participation of the people that the Ponnampet Block was able to achieve its progress. In respect of works under education, rural health and sanitation, the expenditure incurred from the project funds has been matched by popular co-operation. The villagers have contributed more than 50 per cent of the total cost in putting up school buildings, buildings for hospitals and dispensaries and sinking of wells. Apart from this, there have been donations, both in cash and kind, for the construction of hospitals, maternity wards, rural veterinary dispensary buildings and school buildings within the block areas, but outside the block programme. In all, in the Second Plan, an amount of Rs. 16.63 lakhs was made available under the Community Development schemes of which Rs. 10.35 lakhs were to meet the expenditure on works that remained unfinished during the First Plan.

The people have been actively co-operating in the implementation of development schemes by forming Vikas Mandals (Village Development Committees) in the villages. The villagers have taken to improved methods of agricultural practices and all-round development is noticeable in poultry farming, co-operative farming and bee-keeping. Till the end of the Second Five-Year Plan, the people's participation was estimated at about Rs. 20 lakhs.

Third Five-Year Plan

Under the Third Five-Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 13 lakhs has been earmarked to meet the expenditure of various developmental schemes under Community Development in the district. A tabular statement indicating the total expenditure incurred by each block from the commencement of the block to 1963-64 is appended to this chapter. As the entire district was already covered under Community Development programme, there is no new block to be opened during the Third Five-Year Plan. As said already, there are three blocks in the district and all of them are in the post-stage II with a schematic budget of Rs. 1.00 lakh per year per block.

Statement showing the total expenditure from the year 1952-53 to 1963-64 in the Community Development Blocks of the Coorg District.

Name of the block		*Date of Inauguration*	*Present stage*		*Date of commencement of present stage*
Somwarpet	..	2-10-1952	Post-Stage II	..	1-4-1963
Ponnampet	..	2-10-1953	do	..	1-4-1964
Mercara	..	2-10-1953	do	..	1-4-1964

Head of account or activity		*Expenditure incurred from inception to 1963-64*		
		Somwarpet	*Mercara*	*Ponnampet*
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Block Headquarters	..	2,87,306	6,56,622	7,08,379
2. Animal Husbandry and Agricultural Extension		1,18,084	1.00,252	1,21,285
3. Irrigation	..	5,57,463	2,80,309	3,91,328
4. Reclamation	..	39,129	..	..
5. Health and Rural Sanitation	..	2,51,261	1,21,238	1,14,426
6. Education	..	2,92,979	1,80,285	1,29,746
7. Social Education	..	60,290	95,486	63,341
8. Communication	..	2,17,927	1,43,296	1,92,824
9. Rural Arts, Crafts and Industries	..	1,29,893	34,195	51,432
10. Housing	..	2,17,535	1,97,560	35,820
Grand Total (in Rupees)	..	21,71,957	17,59,143	18,08,581

Prices of Foodgrains during 1873 to 1876.

(*Seers per Rupee*).

Market	Rice, 1st Sort				Rice, 2nd Sort			
	1873	1874	1875	1876	1873	1874	1875	1876
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mercara ..	10.0	10.37	10.40	8.31	11.12	11.70	11.90	10.40
Virajpet ..	10 0	12.00	12.00	0.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	10.50
Fraserpet (Kushalnagar).	10.0	10.00	10 06	9.00	16.00	16.37	16.00	11.50
Somwarpet ..	..	..	.	..	18.06	20.00	19.00	15.00
Shanivarasanthe	..	.	..	..	20.12	22.00	20.00	14.10
Kodlipet ..	..	..	..	..	20.00	24.00	24.00	13.40
Ponnampet ..	..	..	..	.	14.00	15.00	16.00	14.00

Market	Ragi				Wheat		
	1873	1874	1875	1876	1874	1875	1876
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Mercara ..	35.06	30 75	21.18	16.42	7.75	8 90	8.07
Virajpet ..	38.00	30.00	24.00	17.05	9.00	10.00	9.00
Fraserpet (Kushalnagar).	48.00	42.75	26.04	20.74	8.00	10.00	8.00
Somwarpet ..	40.00	45.00	28.00	20.00	..	..	9.00
Shanivarsanthe	48.52	45.00	30.00	20 02	..	..	..
Kodlipet ..	45.86	15 00	30.00	22.04	..	..	..
Ponnampet ..	40.00	20.00	28.00	16 00	7 00	6.00	7.50

Source :—Lewis Rice, Mysore and Coorg Gazetteer, compiled for Government of India, Vol. III, Coorg, 1878, P. 311.

Retail Prices (in Seers) Per Rupee of the District's Staple Food Grains for each Month of the Decade at the Headquarters Town.

Year		*Headquarters Town—Mercara* / *District's staple food-grain—Rice.*						
		January	*February*	*March*	*April*	*May*	*June*	*July*
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1911	..	12.00	11 70	11.00	11.10	10.00	9.50	8.50
1912	.	9.80	10 00	10.00	9.00	8.40	7.80	7.40
1913	..	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	8.12	7.12	7.80
1914	..	9.40	9.40	8.12	9.12	8.12	8.00	7 12
1915	..	10.00	9.80	9.80	9.80	9.80	8.80	8.80
1916	..	9.40	9.40	9.40	8.12	8.60	7.40	7.40
1917	..	9.40	9.00	8.80	8.00	8.00	7.00	7.00
1918	..	8.00	7.12	7.12	7.00	6.80	6 12	7.00
1919	..	6.60	6.00	5.00	5.00	4.80	4.20	4.00
1920	..	5 40	5 60	5.40	5.20	5.20	5.00	5.00
1921	..	6.12	8.40	7.12	7.40	7.00	6.80	5.80
1922	.	5.40	6 80	6.10	6.60	6.20	5.80	5.80
1923	..	6.40	6.12	6.10	6.12	6.60	5.12	5.12
1924	..	6.00	6 00	6 10	6.10	6.80	6.20	5.80

Year		*Headquarters Town— Mercara* / *District's staple food-grain—Rice.*					
		August	*September*	*October*	*November*	*December*	*Average for the year*
		9	10	11	12	13	14
1911	..	10 60	10 00	10.00	8 00	8.50	10.00
1912	..	7 80	8 12	9.40	8.80	9.00	8.80
1913	.	7.80	8 80	8.80	8.80	8.00	8.80
1914	..	8.40	8.80	9 00	9.40	9.00	8 80
1915	..	8.80	8.40	8.80	8 80	8 40	8.14
1916	..	7.40	7.40	7 40	7.00	7.80	8 40
1917	..	6.40	6.80	6.12	7 00	7 40	7.60
1918	..	6.40	6.12	6.40	6 00	5.12	7.10
1919	..	3.14	4.60	4.10	5.00	5.00	5.00
1920	..	5 80	6.80	6.40	6.12	6.40	5 80
1921	.	5.40	6.10	6 00	6.00	5.40	6.70
1922	.	5.80	5.12	5.14	5.20	5.80	6 10
1923	.	5.40	5.80	6 20	6.40	6 80	6.50
1924	..	5.00	5.12	5 10	6.40	5.12	6.00

Source :—Coorg District Gazetteer, B-Volume, 1920, P. 5.

Retail Prices (in Seers per Rupee).

Year		Headquarters Town—Mercara					
		Wheat	Barley	Common rice	Ragi	Gram	Salt
1911	..	6.90	6.00	9.20	13.16	14.10	18.70
1912	..	6.00	6.00	8.80	15.11	14.20	17.00
1913	..	6.00	6.00	8.60	15.00	9.00	16.00
1914	..	6.00	6.00	8.80	15.00	12.00	16.00
1915	..	6.00	6.00	8.14	15.80	12.60	17.10
1916	..	6.10	5.13	8.40	17.60	14.60	17.40
1917	..	5.12	5.10	7.70	14.90	14.12	12.50
1918	..	4.00	4.00	6.80	13.00	8.70	9.40
1919	..	2.10	2.70	4.80	6.80	6.70	12.60
1920	..	2.50	2.00	5.90	8.40	5.80	13.12
1921	..	3.20	..	6.50	10.20	6.50	13.50
1922	..	3.20	..	5.13	7.15	6.13	11 80
1923	..	3.90	..	6.20	10.11	3.10	9.10
1924	..	3.12	..	6.00	8.80	7.50	10.60

Source :—Coorg District Gazetteer, B-Volume, 1926, P. 5.

Average whole-sale prices of selected commodities in Coorg District
Prices in rupees per maund.

Commodity			1957	1958	1959
Rice	..	..	19.49	19.95	21.59
Wheat	..	..	20.10	19.84	20.96
Jawar	..	..	14.30	12.04	14.12

Source :—Department of Statistics.

Average whole-sale prices of selected commodities in Coorg District
(in rupees per quintal).

Year and month		Rice 1st sort	Rice 2nd sort	Wheat	Jawar
October 1960	..	71	61	55	43
November 1960	..	..	55	60	43
December 1960	..	..	52	55	42
January 1961	..	.	64	55	41
February 1961	..	..	..	55	39
March 1961	..	74	61	56	38

Source :—Department of Statistics.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

THE administrative history of the district and the various changes effected in the administrative set-up from time to time have been set forth in chapter I—" General ". The pattern of general administration is dealt with in the following paragraphs.

For purposes of revenue administration, the Coorg District has been divided into three taluks. These three taluks have been sub-divided further into eleven nads/hoblies, consisting of two hundred and seventy seven villages. The Somwarpet taluk has four nads with one hundred and twenty-one villages, the Mercara taluk has three nads with sixty-eight villages, and the Virajpet taluk consists of four nads with eighty-eight villages.

The Deputy Commissioner is the head of the district administration. Excepting the Forest Department, which has its Circle Level Officer, *viz.*, Conservator with his headquarters at Mercara, all the Developmental Departments have their District Heads in the district. The headquarters of almost all the District Heads of the departments are situated at Mercara

Executive functions of the Deputy Commissioner.

The Deputy Commissioner is the chief executive of the district. With a view to enabling him to function effectively, he has been given vast and varied powers. He is the real and effective head of the district, the focal point of district administration. His executive powers were and still are varied and undefinable. The revenue, magisterial and police powers are united in the office of the Deputy Commissioner. Co-ordination between various departments by meeting the heads individually and collectively, control over local self-governing bodies with powers to intervene if necessary, contact with the public in committees or during interviews with visitors, execution of Government-sponsored campaigns such as the National Savings Campaign and the Grow More Food Campaign, and miscellaneous functions such as rationing and food control, and organising relief measures in times of emergencies like floods, famines and epidemics, are all included among the functions of the Deputy Commissioner. He is not only an administrator at the district level but also an

interpreter of Government policies. He has to explain to the people in the rural parts the significance of the Government programmes of development and enlist their hearty and active co-operation in this behalf. The Five-Year Plans are the blueprints of progress and prosperity, and the Deputy Commissioner endeavours to push through all the schemes with a view to seeing that the prescribed targets are reached in the quickest time. The happiness of the people depends largely upon the achievements under these plans, the principal objective of which is to raise the standard of living of the people and to remove the existing disparities as early as possible. The fact cannot be gainsaid that the role of the Deputy Commissioner in this regard is indeed vital.

Revenue functions of the Deputy Commissioner.

The Deputy Commissioner is the head of the Revenue Department at the district level. His major revenue duties include the general suupervision and control of the land records and the staff of the Revenue Department, the appointment, promotion, transfer, demotion and punishment of subordinate officials according to the rules of Government, supervision over the collection of revenue, submission of periodical reports to Government and also hearing appeals against the decisions of his subordinates in matters connected with land revenue administration.

In addition to his duties as the revenue head of the district, the Deputy Commissioner holds the following *ex-officio* positions. He is the District Registrar exercising control over all the Sub-Registrars, the Deputy Development Commissioner exercising supervision over all developmental activities, Chairman of the District Advisory Committee, National Savings Scheme, the District Co-ordination Committee of officers, the District Regional Transport Authority, the District Family Planning Committee and the District Development Council. He is also the head of the District Treasury. In short, he is the pivot of the district administration, exercising direct and indirect supervision and control over all departments at the district level. He is directly responsible to the Divisional Commissioner, Mysore Division. Prior to 1st April 1964, the Deputy Commissioner, Coorg District, was exercising the powers of the Assistant Commissioner of the erstwhile Government of Coorg with regard to revenue matters under the provisions of the Coorg Revenue Manual. Such of the matters as were being disposed of by the Chief Commissioner of the old Coorg Government were being referred to the State Government for final orders through the Divisional Commissioner. But now, with effect from 1st April 1964, Revenue Officers are exercising their powers in accordance with the provisions of the Mysore Land Revenue Act.

The Deputy Commissioner was being assisted in his duties as on 17th April 1964, by one Assistant Commissioner who is working in the capacity of an Executive Personal Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner, another who functions as the Development Assistant, one Office Assistant, three Tahsildars and eleven Parpathigars, one Head Clerk, one manager in the Development Section, one records assistant, one election supervisor, one senior stenographer, six typists, fifty-one second division clerks and twenty-two shanbhogues.

During the First Five-Year Plan period, the National Extension Service was set up through which the improvement of all aspects of village life is undertaken. Under this scheme, the Deputy Commissioner has been designated as the Deputy Development Commissioner for the Community Development Programmes. The Deputy Development Commissioner is in overall charge of all the blocks in his jurisdiction. He has to possess a clear picture of the normal working of the several departments at the district level so as to evolve an integrated approach to the various developmental activities. As the Chairman of the District Development Council, he has to supervise the various schemes transferred to the Taluk Development Boards for implementation. He also reviews the progress of the developmental works undertaken by the heads of offices in the district at the periodical meetings of the District Co-ordination Committee.

Treasury and Financial functions of the Deputy Commissioner.

There is a District Treasury in every district to account for every transaction in the district on behalf of Government. The Deputy Commissioner is responsible for the accounting of all monies received and paid and the punctual submission of all returns due from the District Treasury, but he takes no part in the day-to-day business of the treasury. There is a District Treasury Officer to attend to all the treasury transactions in the district. However, the functioning of a separate officer to be in immediate charge of the District Treasury does not relieve the Deputy Commissioner of any of his responsibilities under the various codes and manuals. There are sub-treasuries in the taluks. The District Treasury Officer is responsible to the Deputy Commissioner for the proper administration of the treasuries. He conducts all transactions and submits reports to the Accountant-General. Defects and serious irregularities, if any, are brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner by the Accountant-General. The Accountant-General requires independent reports from the Deputy Commissioner in all important matters connected with the treasury administration.

Magisterial functions of the Deputy Commissioner.

Prior to 1st of June 1956, the Deputy Commissioner in the former Mysore State used to function as the District Magistrate for the administration of criminal justice within the scope of the

Criminal Procedure Code. The judiciary was separated form the executive with effect from 1st June 1956. As a result of this separation, the Deputy Commissioner and the magistrates subordinate to him were deprived of their judicial functions. These functions have been transferred to judicial officers known as Judicial Magistrates. But the responsibility of maintaining law and order continues to rest with the Deputy Commissioner. This responsibility calls for certain magisterial functions of an executive character. The Deputy Commissioner is the Additional District Magistrate, in which capacity he exercises general control over police matters in the district. He is the authority for licensing cinemas. He exercises powers vested in him under the Indian Explosives Act, the Untouchability Act, the Dangerous Drugs Act, and the Criminal Procedure Code. He also exercises powers under the Irrigation Act, the Workmen's Compensation Act, the Mysore Court Fees and Suits Valuation Act, the Forest Act, the Tenancy Act and the Land Acquisition Act.

Tahsildars.

There are three Tahsildars in charge of the three taluks in the district. Their duties and powers are such as are specially imposed or conferred upon them under the Mysore Land Revenue Rules. The Tahsildars and the Parpathigars are the keymen in the revenue set-up of the taluks.

Law and Order.

The other department which is next in importance on the executive side is the Police headed by the Superintendent of Police. He was being assisted, as on 17th of April 1964, in his duties by one Deputy Superintendent of Police, four Circle Inspectors inclusive of one Prosecuting Police Inspector, sixteen Sub-Inspectors, sixty-four Head Constables and two hundred and sixty-four Constables. The District Armed Reserve Squad consisting of one Sub-Inspector, two Assistant Sub-Inspectors, nine Head Constables and fifty-nine Constables, as on 17th April 1964, also assists the Superintendent of Police in maintaining law and order in the district.

Judicial.

The scheme of separation of the judiciary from the executive was actually introduced in Coorg District with effect from 1st of December 1959, though in other parts of the State, it came into effect from 1956, and a Judicial District Magistrate was appointed in the district from that date. The District and Sessions Judge is the head of the Civil Courts in the district while the District Magistrate, Mercara, exercises control over Criminal Courts. There are two Munsiff-Magistrates' Courts in the district. One of them is located at Mercara, while the other is situated at Virajpet. There is also a First Class Magistrate's Court at Virajpet. All the criminal courts in the district exercise first class powers. The District Court is the principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction in the district. Subordinate to the District Judge are the Civil Judge's Court and the Munsiffs' Courts.

The two First Class Munsiff-Magistrates, the District Magistrate and one First Class Magistrate constitute the principal magisterial officers in the district.

The functions and powers of the courts in the district have been dealt with at length in Chapter XII—Law, Order and Justice.

District Development Council.

The District Development Council has been set-up at the district level to review and co-ordinate the work of the Taluk Boards and to be in charge of planning for the entire district. The members of these councils comprise the members of the Lok Sabha and the State Legislature representing a part or whole of the district, the members of the Rajya Sabha and the members of the State Legislative Council ordinarily resident in the district, the presidents of the Taluk Boards and the District Officers in charge of the Development Departments. In addition, a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes and a lady to be nominated by the Government, are members. This body is empowered to pass the budgets of the Taluk Boards.

Other Officers at the District level.

The other officers functioning at the district level are specified below. It is unnecessary to describe their functions here, as in the case of most of them, their designations give an idea of their functions while the functions of others have already been described in the appropriate chapters.

The other officers in the district are:—

(1) District Surgeon.
(2) District Health Officer.
(3) District Educational Officer.
(4) District Agricultural Officer.
(5) District Veterinary Officer.
(6) Executive Engineer, Public Works Department.
(7) Assistant Engineer, Public Works Department.
(8) Executive Engineer, Mysore State Electricity Board.
(9) Assistant Engineer, Mysore State Electricity Board.
(10) Agricultural Income-Tax Officer.
(11) Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
(12) Conservator of Forests, Coorg Circle, Mercara.
(13) District Forest Officer, North Coorg Division, Mercara.
(14) District Employment Officer.
(15) Manager, Government Branch Press, Mercara.
(16) District Survey Officer.
(17) Assistant Prohibition Officer.
(18) District Social Welfare Officer.
(19) District Social Education Organiser.
(20) Regional Transport Officer.

(21) Superintendent, Central Workshop, Mercara.
(22) Labour Officer, Coorg.
(23) Cardamom Development Officer.
(24) Horticulturist, Gonikoppal.
(25) Horticultural Development Officer, Gonikoppal.
(26) Horticultural Inspector, Mercara.
(27) District Statistical Officer (for both South Kanara and Coorg).
(28) Block Development Officer.
(29) Superintendent, Central Jail.
(30) District Magistrate.
(31) Commercial Tax Officer.

The Central Government has its own officers in the District for the collection of Income-Tax and Excise duties and administration of Postal, Telegraph and Telephone Services. A Central Government employee, the District National Savings Organiser, is also working in the district with his headquarters at Mercara.

Divisional Commissioner. The Divisional Commissioner has important supervisory functions with regard to the revenue and general administration of the districts under his control. The Divisional Commissioner, Mysore Division, has jurisdiction over Coorg District He is the link between the Government and the District authorities in respect of all developmental and public welfare activities. He tours in the district and supervises the general activities of all developmental departments. In view of the numerous activities under the Five-Year Plans and the increasing tempo of Community Development, considerable importance is attached to the role of the Divisional Commissioner. He holds co-ordination meetings frequently with a view to stepping up the tempo of work. He has to devote urgent attention to floods, famines, inflation and scarcity conditions if they should occur within his jurisdiction.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

THE rights and obligations existing between the owners of arable land and the actual tillers constitute the core of land tenures. The system of land tenure is not only an economic fact based on a sound legal system but also a system of social relations. In the old days the reigning monarchs derived their revenue from land. It was customary for a cultivator to pay something to the State. No authentic information is available of how this land tax was levied in the dim past. But in the days of the Coorg Rajas, the land revenue constituted the chief item of the State's revenue. It is therefore of interest to discuss the mode of assessment peculiar to Coorg. The land tenures in Coorg are peculiar and are distinct from other forms of tenure in the rest of India. From the time the area was ruled by the Rajas, these land tenures continued with slight variations and even after the British occupation, there was not much change. Coorg under the rule of Virarajendra saw a proper division of revenue tracts. Though the country was divided into sub-divisions solely for the purpose of civil administration, there were occasional variations in the boundaries of taluks. The arable lands in many instances were equally divided as the country had no Zamindars or big land-owners. The policy pursued by Virarajendra tried to equalise the landed property. Though the cultivable fields were owned by individual holders, the pasturage and the forests within the jurisdiction of a village were the common possession of those who inhabited it. In 1812, a revenue settlement was effected by Lingaraja who ordered the *Shist* accounts to be preserved in which all the *Wargas* or farms were registered with great detail and accuracy. It also contained the particular tenure under which each *Warga* was held. Lingaraja also ordered a new revenue account called the *Bhutty* account and in 1813 he had all the paddy fields measured. At that time, there were seven different categories of fields supposed to produce eight, ten, twelve, fourteen, sixteen, eighteen and twenty seers of paddy respectively on an area of land containing 256 square feet or a square of one *Kolu* (bamboo) 16 feet long. This was the original measure used for determining the revenue account. To put it in brief, three acres of land were equal to 100 *bhutties* of land. This was the picture of land system which existed in the Rajas'

Introduction

days. During the reigns of Haidar Ali and his son, Tippu Sultan, Coorg was subjected to many vicissitudes. The frequent clashes that occurred in the area destroyed the semblance of private ownership of land or at least the owner was deprived of that undoubted right by which the proprietor of the land alienated his estate without restriction. Again coming to authority, the Raja divided all the arable lands among his people as many of the original owners had left the area. In accordance with the land ownership custom, the owner of the land could not sell or divide it. He retained the land under a prescriptive right. The lands could be transferred only to the heirs. Possession of land in the old days rarely fluctuated and the cultivator, while he continued to pay his annual assessment, could not without a violation of established usage be removed without his consent. Such a land tenure gave as much of the security of permanency as could be expected in a country where the will of the ruling chief was supreme. Property of this category did not often change ownership and when it did, the approval of the chief was necessary. The abstract right in the soil was an unquestioned monopoly of the ruling chief. It is quite probable that private property in land was at some dim past recognised in Coorg. Of course, all unoccupied lands belonged to the king. The feudalistic nature of the administration did not admit of a burdensome taxation on land. In Coorg, the land-owners held their lands on an average assessment of 10 per cent on the gross produce. This levy was in many instances reduced as a reward. The possession of a jagir made the owner free of any land taxation. About one-fourth of the cultivated lands in Coorg was either rent-free or was assessed lightly. Those who were loyal to the king and who took an active part in the expulsion of invaders were rewarded by tax-free ownership of land. Some land-holders, who did not belong to the ruling class, paid only 12 per cent on the gross produce. The rates were levied on the land yield and the fertility of the soil. As explained earlier, the measure used for determining the assessment was the *bhutty* which was universal throughout Coorg. Every hundred *bhutties* of produce was subject to a ten or twelve per cent taxation. Each *bhutty* was equivalent to 80 seers known by that name locally. The money rent or cash rent was only levied on wet lands. The cultivator who raised dry crops was giving a small portion of it to the Government. Assessment on gardens was paid in kind. The State offered a variety of inducements for the occupation of waste lands. The assessment fixed by Government had to be paid within four months after the harvest. There was no difficulty in realising the assessment. Whenever the crops failed due to bad season or infestation, remissions were allowed. Similar to other parts of India, the principal revenue of the State of Coorg in the old days was derived from the land tax. The subsidiary sources of revenue were the customs, sales of cardamom, pepper and sandalwood, house-tax and honey-tax. Timber, though in abundance in Coorg, yielded little revenue since the difficulty of

moving it to places outside Coorg was formidable. All these items yielded a revenue of more than six lakhs of rupees. It is not easy to state or arrive at a definite conclusion regarding the proportion of the disbursements to the receipts. But the administrative expenses were extremely small. A big slice of the revenue went to the king's share and he was quite generous in expending his wealth on organised charity, particularly on mendicants who came to Talakaveri on festive days. Some portion of the revenue of the Coog Raja came from his personal estates known as *Panniyas*. These estates were found all over Coorg. The actual number of these personal estates cannot be ascertained, but reports say that there were about 20 or 24 estates. The *Panniyas* raised paddy, sugar-cane, ginger, and all kinds of vegetables. In some cases, these personal estates were occupied by some cultivators who shared equally the amount of their produce with the Raja. The period when Coorg came under the sway of Haidar Ali and Tippu Sultan was too transitory and unstable to change the old established revenue order. The pattern which existed in Coorg prior to the British occupation was of a mixed type. It was something akin to feudalism, but was also of a patriarchal type.

Revenue History.

The revenue history of the area may be conveniently divided into five periods—(1) Coorg under the Rajas, (2) 1834-1864—Coorg under the British before money was invested in coffee, (3) 1865-1878—Prosperous days of the coffee industry, (4) 1879-1898—decline of the coffee industry and (5) gradual recovery of the area from the effects of the rapid growth and decline of the coffee industry. The history of Coorg under the rule of the Rajas discloses a story of continuous misery and subjugation aggravated by the calamities of the wars with Haidar Ali and Tippu Sultan. No material prosperity was possible in this period. When the hard times were over in 1799, an era of advancement dawned but soon ended in disappointment. Dodda Virarajendra Wodeyar, who had so gallantly freed the country from outside aggression, fell a victim to a mental disease in 1807, just at a time when wise and prudent government was most essential. His successors, Linga Raja and Viraraja II were despotic and allowed no measure of advancement. The only authority on whom one can rely for an account of those times is Lt. Connor who in 1817 conducted a survey for the Government of India and who has recorded in his "Memoir of the Kodagu Survey" a graphic description of the internal condition of Coorg at that period. The Government of the Raja was one of absolute despotism and most elaborate precautions were taken both against criticism of its methods by the people and against communications with or interference by the outside world. The fiscal management was no better. Much of the revenue was expended in charity or rather lavished on the religious mendicants who visited Coorg for different festivals and much more thrown away on puerile and frivolous objects. Commerce and trade were non-existent, a

result partly of the absence of transport and partly of the obstacles which the Raja systematically placed in the way of communication with adjoining countries. Rice was the principal product of Coorg. The area then actually under cultivation is not ascertainable but the area of assessed wet land according to the Raja's *Shists* in 1834 was 38,031 acres. Dry farming methods were confined to the eastern parts. Cardamom and pepper were State monopolies and were grown in the Western Ghats. The wasteful practice of cultivating ragi and hill rice by the *Kumri* method seems to have been widespread not only below the ghats but also in Coorg proper.

This method by which food crops were being raised, though not in vogue now, was practised in the hill slopes of the district by the cultivators. The forests were burnt with all foliage which formed a sort of manure, thereby increasing the yielding capacity of the soil. Making use of the monsoon rains, food crops were got out of the *Kumri* soil. This method avoided constant ploughing, manuring and other requirements of agriculture. The *Kumri* method was widely practised in the Coorg and South Kanara regions. In 1817, the revenue of Coorg which then included 580 square miles of the Sulya and Puttur taluks, subsequently merged in South Kanara, amounted to Rs. 6,21,600 and was derived mainly from land tax, house tax, excise, State monopolies (sandal, cardamom and pepper) and the produce of the State farms.

On the assumption of the Government by the British, the then existing administrative organisation of the area was not interfered with. Rules for the conduct of the district functionaries in Coorg were issued in 1834 according to which the revenue system, civil and criminal justice, police, forests and abkari were brought into a comparatively systematic working order. It was but natural that an intelligent race such as the Coorgs should soon become prosperous under the improved conditions. The extent of cereal cultivation was nearly doubled while 70,000 acres of coffee estates were newly opened. It is said that in the time of the Rajas some Moplahs to whom they had given land near Nalknad first grew the coffee shrub from seed, but its successful and profitable production was at first concealed from the Coorgs who were however shrewd enough to find out for themselves that none of the threatened disastrous consequences followed the cultivation of the plant, while there was a ready and lucrative sale for the produce At that time of the Coorg Rajas and for sometime after. cardamoms were a Government monopoly and the cultivators had to sell their produce at a fixed rate to the Government. The cardamom jungles were subsequently leased by Government and the cultivation thus received an impetus as the out-turn was increased and prices ruled high. The population also rose between 1839 and 1864. It was estimated that in 1839, the population of Coorg was 81,437 and in 1864 it was 1,19,118.

Progress during 1865 to 1878.

In the revenue history of Coorg, the period between 1865 to 1878 is considered as heralding a stable government and prosperity throughout the area. In a report submitted by Mr. Gustav Haller, who was settlement officer in Coorg in February 1910, there is a graphic description of the progress of the coffee industry which regularised the inflow of revenue. The progress of the industry can be gauged by the fact that the quantity exported was 579 tons in 1857, 3,000 tons in 1867 and 4,880 in 1876. During this period, the planters had to face serious difficulties caused by the enemies of the coffee bush, the borer and the coffee bug being the most formidable. According to the administration report of 1870, the area of land under coffee cultivation was 5,222 acres less than in 1868-69, the decrease being attributed chiefly to the ravages of the borer which had inflicted ruinous damage on many of the most flourishing plantations. In 1871 it was reported that comparatively little further injury had been done. And in 1873 it was stated that a succession of bad seasons and the Bombay crisis which made money so scarce had brought about the ruin of some of the finest properties and tended to destroy the public confidence in coffee cultivation. In spite of all these drawbacks, the years 1865 to 1878 marked a period of great prosperity for coffee cultivation. The land taken up for coffee rose to 84,000 acres and the export of coffee rose to about 5,000 tons. The cultivation of paddy on the other hand suffered to some extent on account of the counter attractions of the coffee estates and the area under paddy fell from 76,176 to 72,733 acres.

1879-1898.

In this period, the coffee industry appears to have remained most flourishing for a few years in the beginning. New areas were planted up. Planters recognised the need of better cultivation and adequate manuring after good crops. The year 1883 marked the commencement of the decline of coffee and from the account given in the administration report of that year, it appears that its price fell by 40%, a result due chiefly of an over-stocked market and the severe competition from Brazil. The estates on the ghats which were opened without shade were beginning to show signs of irretrievable decline. In 1889, several large European estates on the Sampaje ghat were relinquished wholly or partially and a few years afterwards the estates on the Periambady ghat were resigned to Government. By 1898, all coffee on the ghats had practically disappeared. Although the total holdings and area planted at the close of this period is shown to be greater than at the commencement, the increase in the area was nominal. It is due partly to the fact that the cultivation on *bane* lands, planted with coffee and not previously recorded was brought on to the revenue accounts for the first time after 1886. The area under rice again reflected the condition of coffee and increased steadily from 73,015 to 77,589 acres as coffee declined in price. Towards the end of this period the cultivators in Coorg began to realise the hopelessness of

continuing coffee cultivation and necessity directed their attention to their rice fields.

1899-1908.

The history of local taxation and the fluctuation of the burden of cesses showed variations. The *dhuli tax* and *mane-hana* or house-tax imposed on agriculturists, both of which had continued from the Rajas' time, and the plough tax (introduced in the interests of education in 1872) amounting altogether to Rs. 27,326 were abolished in 1900. The dhuli tax was a tax on paddy. Originally it was a voluntary tax and no compulsion was involved in its levy. After coming into power, the Haleri dynasty considered the feasibility of making the tax obligatory on every cultivating raiyat. The land record cess introduced in 1892 and amounting to Rs. 35,232 was abolished in 1905, while the district fund cess amounting in 1908-1909 to Rs. 30,107 was introduced in 1901. Since 1888-1889 there had been a net increase of Rs. 6,268 in local taxation. Remissions of revenue have been very rare but in 1877, the great famine year in India, remissions to the extent of Rs. 7,350 were granted, while in 1900, payment of revenue to the extent of Rs. 10,636 was postponed.

Rights in Land.

The revenue system in Coorg is *raiyatwari, i.e.*, the Government deals with an individual, who is assumed to be acting on his own account and not to be a middle man. Accordingly, a raiyat who has acquired possession of land is allowed to retain it as long as he pays the Government dues. Even when he becomes a defaulter, only such portion of his land is sold as is sufficient to cover the amount due. Notwithstanding the raiyatwari system there were in the revenue history of the district numerous peculiar tenures whereby the revenue administration became complicated. These peculiar tenures have been described by various writers, but in order to render the different systems more intelligible, a detailed analysis is attempted here. According to the quasi-settlement effected by Lingarajendra in 1812, four different kinds of tenures of land existed, *viz.*, *Jamma*, *Sagu*, *Umbali* and *Jodi*. This arrangement in land tenure was nearly allied to what is called the "Shivappa Naik's Shist". Before proceeding to describe the various tenures, it is essential to know certain general revenue terms. Each rice-cultivated valley was known as a *Kovu* divided in the Rajas' times into plots called *Wargs* averaging about one and-a-half acres in extent. A considerable area of the adjacent forest land was considered necessary for grazing, leaf manure, fire-wood and timber for agricultural purposes and was allotted by the Rajas for each *Warg* in blocks varying from a few acres to 300 acres or more. These allotments were recorded in the revenue accounts of the Raja's *Shists* under the name *Bane*. This land was not ordinarily to be cultivated and only the tree growth was allowed. Low lying *bane* land capable of being brought under paddy was known as *Barike* but was unassessed until brought under cultivation.

Portions of *bane* land specially allotted for dwelling places and farm yards were known as *Hitlumanedalas* while land set apart for a collective village site was termed *Uruguppe*. In the north-eastern part of Coorg, where no *banes* were allotted, the raiyats were allowed to graze their cattle in and take firewood and timber for agricultural purposes from communal lands known as *Urudves, i.e.,* village forests. *Urumbales* and *Mande* were communal village lands reserved for panchayat meetings and for dancing on festive occasions. The villagers have the right of grazing in these lands. *Devarakadus* were sacred forests, usually assigned to some particular deity or temple. The right to take firewood for temple worship, material for constructing pandals and timber for repairing the temple was allowed to the temple authorities and servants, while the villagers generally had the rights of way and water, of grazing and of hunting, especially during the *Keil Muhurta* and *Huttari* festivals. *Jamma malles* were portions of the reserve forests on the Western Ghats in which the hereditary right of growing cardamom on the indigenous system was admitted. These *malles* were later separately resettled. In the north-eastern tract, inferior dry lands known as *Vontiholas* which were cultivated once in three or four years were formerly allowed to be held free of assessment but in the summary settlement, a nominal rate of three annas per acre was imposed. It is possible that the grant of these lands originally resembled the grant of *banes* in South Coorg and it is noteworthy that in the adjoining Hassan District dry lands known as *Vonti* were granted in former times on very easy terms as a means of encouraging the cultivation of abandoned lands. Assessed dry lands in this area were known as *hola* or *sarige*. In order to protect the margins of wet lands from ingression of cattle, and damage by overhanging branches of trees, the Rajas of Coorg granted the adjoining narrow strips of high-lying land, 16 to 30 feet wide, called *Kuruvas*, free of assessment. No such grants were specified for the *Wargs* in Coorg, but it was an established custom that each wet land could claim a *Gerekadu* which indicated a narrow strip of high land not more than 16 feet in breadth and adjoining the wet land. In the Sampajenad below the ghats, grazing lands known as *hullugavalus* were granted by the Rajas under similar circumstances.

It is necessary here to describe the tenures under which the lands were held. The ordinary raiyatwari tenure of land held on full assessment was known as *Sagu* but privileged tenures were also freely granted in the past. The result of this policy was that the *Sagu* tenure in Coorg at one time represented only 43% of the total holdings. Lands on which the land revenue had been wholly or partly assigned or released were divided into *Umbli, Jamma, Jagir, Batamanya, Sarvamanya, Jodi, Matha* lands, *Gendumbli* and *Naimannu*. These various tenures were subject

to the condition that they were not to be alienated without the written permission of the Commissioner.

Jamma tenure.

The *Jamma* tenure is the principal special tenure in Coorg and concerns not less than 40,088 acres of wet land as well as the *banes* attached thereto. Its origin has been traced by Sir J. B. Lyall in his note on tenures in Coorg and surrounding countries, dated 14th May 1885. Briefly expressed, it was originally a military service tenure under which land was held on payment of half assessment in consideration of military or semi-military service to be rendered when demanded. *Jamma* lands were granted largely by the Rajas and to a smaller extent by the British Government until 1895 when it was ordered by the Government of India that no more land should be given on this tenure.

Jagir.

Jagir land was held free of all assessment and was granted by the Rajas in recognition of services rendered; there were 63 such grants comprising 587 acres of wet land and the British Government added to this to the extent of 85 more grants aggregating to 1,213 acres. It was held in most cases in perpetuity and in a few cases for a few generations. Some jagirdars were mere assignees of the full land revenue while others were in absolute possession.

Batamanya.

Land was granted on *batamanya* tenure by the Rajas to Brahmins on condition of the performance of certain religious ceremonies. At one time, there were 55 such holdings, covering 203.44 acres of wet land, which were free of all assessment and were alienable. The assignment ceased on alienation.

Sarvamanya and Jodi

Lands were granted under the *Sarvamanya* and *Jodi* tenures between 1788 and 1839 for the benefit of religious institutions on condition of the performance of religious ceremonies. The term *Sarvamanya* refers to lands of which the revenue had been fully relinquished, while *Jodi* relates to those of which only half the revenue had been assigned. At the time of the Inam enquiry (1904), there were 812 grants covering 3,616 acres of wet land and representing an assignment of Rs. 6,090-13-4.

Matha Lands.

Mathas were religious institutions for the residence of ascetics and were intended to give shelter to travellers of the Virasaiva caste and others. These institutions were endowed with land for their maintenance by the Rajas of Coorg who were themselves Virasaivas. The Mathadar was merely the manager of the endowments.

Gandumbli and Naimannu.

These were village service Inams. The former of these special tenures refers to lands held by patels and the latter to lands held by *Kuluvadis, i.e.,* village watchmen. Both tenures were inalienable from the permanent holder of the office.

Umbli. Lands were granted under the *Umbli* tenure for past meritorious services. They were originally assessed at 1/10th, 1/4th and 3/10th of the ordinary *Sagu* rate and carried the same service obligations as *Jamma* lands. The grants were perpetual and the lands inalienable, while the assessment was fixed in perpetuity.

Alienated Banes. The term alienated *banes* or alienated *hitlumanedala* refers to *bane* land or *hitlumanedala* which had been alienated apart from the wet land to which it was originally attached. Such land was liable to assessment from the date of alienation and the rights of the holder in timber were the same as in the case of *bane*. In other respects it was held on the *Sagu* tenure.

Sagu lands were classified as redeemed or unredeemed according to whether the timber rights were paid for by the occupant or not. It is on record that in the former Yelusaviraseeme, the *Sagu* tax was levied on a portion of wet land capable of producing 60 *Kandagas* of grain or 120 *bhutties* by measure at the rate of 16 rupees. The total revenue from *Sagu* holdings amounted in 1869-1870 to Rs. 77,240-15-5. It often happened that a *Sagu* raiyat transferred his land for a certain sum of money in favour of another tenant, but this did not admit the raiyat's claim to proprietorship in the land. On the raiyat relinquishing his land, the name of the first applicant for the same was registered without reference to any private arrangement.

The different holdings enumerated above were liable to three additional taxes payable to Government, *viz.*, ghee tax, *Dhuli* tax and *Mane-hana* or house tax.

The ghee tax amounted to half a seer of ghee for every 100 *bhutties* of land and was paid in consideration of the Government's expense on feasting the Coorgs who assembled at the *Huttari* and Gowri feasts at the Raja's palaces for exhibiting their national dance accompanied by singing and instrumental music.

The *Dhuli paddy* tax was imposed by right on all raiyats. It is of interest to note that in 1868-69 this special levy was commuted into a cash payment of Rs. 3-3-7 per one and a half *bhutty* or 120 seers. Since 1834, the rule was that raiyats cultivating from 25 to 50 *bhutties* of wet land had to pay three-fourths of a *bhutty* of paddy and for 50 and upwards one-and-a-half *bhutty* of paddy to Government.

The *Mane-hana* or house tax was paid by every cultivator at Re. 0-9-7 per family. The 'untouchable' paid half of this amount. Others paid from three annas to Rs. 3 according to trade or caste.

Growth of Revenue System and Accounts.

The first revenue settlement which seems to have been reduced to the form of accounts or indeed of which any record is available is that conducted by the Rajas, Dodda Virarajendra and Lingarajendra from 1805 to 1816, the results of which are found in the accounts known as the Raja's *Shists*. These accounts were compiled for each village and were bound together according to *nads* in leather-covered books which were preserved in the Commissioner's office. These books were signed by the Rajas themselves and were considered to be marvels of neatness and accuracy—the Domesday books of Coorg. The assessment was collected in cash and only such raiyats as were unable to pay in cash were allowed to pay in kind, while the *Dhuli-tax* was always paid in kind. Prior to this, it is probable that the revenue administration consisted chiefly in the collection of a more or less fixed proportion of the produce in kind, while land was granted and resumed according to the absolute will and pleasure of the rulers. The management of revenue business was in the hands of *Parpathigars*, two of whom were appointed to the charge of each of the many *nads* into which the area was divided. *Shanbogues* were appointed to assist them in purely clerical work. The *Subedars* in charge of the taluks seem to have been more concerned with the keeping of the peace, exercising judicial functions and carrying out the will of their Raja in miscellaneous matters, than with the details of revenue administration, a state of affairs which continued until 1908.

After the advent of the British Government, this system underwent very little real change, but land holdings were confined to the Raja's original grants unless augmented by subsequent specified dispositions. An annual *Jamabandi* or settlement of the revenue demand commenced as early as 1835 at the time of Captain Le Hardy, the first Superintendent. The writing of the *Jamabandi* accounts was evidently supplementary to the time-honoured shists. By a process of gradual evolution, these *jamabandi* accounts became a full statement of the holdings and the annual demand. This process continued up to the time of the summary settlement when, under orders of the Government of India, a regular system of revenue accounts was prescribed consisting primarily of (*a*) the *Jamabandi* register (a full record of rights), (*b*) the crop inspection register in which the cultivation of each field was entered annually and (c) the mutation register in which all transfers of lands were recorded. Numerous supplemental accounts dealing with the collection of revenue were also introduced. In 1899, the Coorg Land and Revenue Regulation and the rules framed thereunder superseded the standing orders regarding collection of revenue. The Coorg province at that time was divided into 19 *nads* each in charge of a *Parpathigar*. Each *nad* was again divided into circles consisting of from four to thirty villages under the supervision of a *Shanbogue*. The *Subedars* were responsible for the due performance of their duties

by all the *Parpathigars* in their taluk, while they themselves were subordinate to the Revenue Divisional Officers—the Assistant Commissioner having charge of Padinalknad, the 1st Assistant Commissioner of Kiggatnad and Yedenalknad and the Commissioner of Mercara and Nanjarajpatna. In addition to his charge of these two taluks, the Commissioner exercised a general revenue control over the whole area of Coorg. The revenue administration was undoubtedly simplified by the fact that rice and dry crops were practically the only forms of cultivation. With the advent of the coffee industry, a great change was introduced and the collection of the coffee *halat* (an excise duty of four annas a maund) until 1866 and the levy of assessment subsequent to that date added considerably to the duties of the revenue staff.

Evolution of Land Survey

For purposes of their revenue settlement, the Coorg Rajas, Virarajendra and Lingarajendra, carried out a survey of all cultivated lands and recorded the result in the *Shists*. The unit of measurement was a rod 16 feet in length which was known as a *Kolu*, while an area of 16 feet square was called a *Sale Kolu* and was approximately 1/170th of an acre. The areas recorded in terms of this survey were found to be remarkably accurate but no attempt was made to measure *banes* or unoccupied lands of any sort, although they were in most cases demarcated with rough stones. About the same time (31st October 1815 to 31st October 1817) a survey of Coorg was made by Lieutenant Connor for geographical purposes in connection with Colonel Lambton's triangulation, which embraced a large portion of South India. It is evident from Lt. Connor's account that his presence was none too acceptable to the Raja and his work was done under strict surveillance. He managed however to produce a most admirable map (Scale 1 inch=1 mile) and to record most interesting descriptions of the country. He made no less than 118 triangulations, ascertained and measured 782 boundary stations and carefully noted and mapped the outlines of the cultivated lands. The first survey operations after the annexation were conducted by the Madras Topographical and Village Boundary Survey Department and extended from 1863 to 1870 during which time the *Devarakadus* (sacred forests), fourteen reserved forests and the major coffee estates were also surveyed and demarcated at a total cost of Rs. 95 per square mile. On the completion of this work, a head surveyor and two deputy surveyors were placed under the orders of the Commissioner to carry out any miscellaneous surveys that might be required in the interests of revenue administration. In 1885, proposals for a revenue survey and settlement of Coorg on the Bombay system, to be effected by the Mysore Revenue Survey, were made by the Chief Commissioner, Sir James Lyall, and accepted in principle by the Government of India. Operations were actually commenced at the end of 1887 and continued till May 1888 during which period the survey of only 36 square miles comprising 82 small villages of very easy

country was completed at a cost of Rs. 762 per square mile. But the rate of progress fell so far short of the forecast on which the estimated expenditure was based that the Government of India ordered the cessation of further operations on financial grounds. The survey was plotted on a scale of eight inches to the mile and was accurate, but the maps were badly prepared and were republished afterwards. In the following year (1889) sanction was obtained to carry out another survey scheme under the direct supervision of the Coorg Revenue Survey Department. Operations began on the 1st April 1890 and the survey of almost the whole province was conducted by October 1892 at a cost of Rs. 1,50,000 or Rs. 196 per square mile, leaving 84 square miles to be done by the Land Records Department. The procedure of that survey was as follows: The main circuits and village boundary traverses were the foundation on which the survey was based, supplemented by traverses carried generally along the rice fields in the valleys starting from and closing on to stations on the circuit or village boundary traverses. These supplementary traverses were marked by a rough stone of about two feet in length and one in breadth, sunk in the ground within a few inches of the surface, and ultimately protected by a cairn of stones or a mound of earth. These stones were shown in the village plans by a triangle. In difficult country, this traverse survey was done by theodolite, while ordinarily the plane table was used. It was decided that the work of field plotting for purposes of assessment should be minimised as much as possible by leaving details, not necessary for that purpose, to be worked out afterwards by the permanent establishment. The field sub-divisions of each *warg,* held under separate contract or title, were accordingly not entered in the maps. The internal details of large waste tracts in which there were no fields or of *bane* holdings in which there were palpably less than ten acres of cultivation, and which were therefore not subject to assessment, were omitted. The survey of disputed boundaries was not carried out by the Survey Department which merely kept a list of such disputes and made no entries regarding them in the land registers and village plans. This work was subsequently carried out by the Land Records Department which had also to correct the many inaccuracies which came to light while dealing with sub-divisions of holdings and tenures and the adjustment of land disputes. It was also found necessary to republish almost all the village maps, owing to the numerous alterations. The existing maps are both useful and correct. Those for the villages are mostly on a scale of eight inches to a mile and show clearly all separately surveyed fields, while very useful and maps on a scale of two inches to a mile have also been prepared, showing natural features, roads and streams and distinguishing by colours the main classes of cultivation. All lands dealt with in the Raja's *Shists* were demarcated with rough stones. The Madras Survey Department also demarcated the villages, estates and

forests which they surveyed, but, in the operations conducted by the Coorg Revenue Survey Department, only the supplementary traverses (numbering 7,200 and known as divisional stones) were marked by stones. In 1895, however, it was decided by the Government of India on the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner that a few more boundary marks should be inserted especially where there was Government waste adjoining private land. These orders were carried out and arrangements made for continuing and maintaining the demarcation of Government lands adjoining cultivation. Experience has shown that the maintenance of numerous survey marks under the conditions which prevail in Coorg is a matter of great difficulty. The heavy rain, the rapid growth of grass, weeds and jungle and the physical peculiarities of the country are all elements which have to be seriously considered and which greatly enhance the difficulty of maintenance. The Government of India, in their letter dated the 12th February 1907, ordered that the Settlement Officer should endeavour to bring the map and the record of rights of every village up-to-date in all particulars, not only because such up-to-date records formed the best basis for an equitable distribution of the assessment but because it was desirable that the opportunity should be taken to make the record complete and accurate and to train the village officers so that they might be thoroughly competent after the settlement was completed to keep up-to-date both the village map and the record.

Summary Settlement of 1896.

The first revenue settlement was that conducted by the Rajas, Doddavirarajendra and Linga Raja, during the years 1805 to 1816. From that period until 1895, no regular attempt at revision was made. The necessity for a resettlement then attracted the attention of Government, but as no sufficient statistics existed, upon which it could be based, a summary settlement (to be in force for ten years) was ordered during the currency of which statistics were to be collected to form the basis of the regular resettlement. The summary settlement was carried out in 1896 in accordance with instructions conveyed by the Government of India, and under the orders of the Chief Commissioner of Coorg, Sir William Mackworth Young. The proposals of the Chief Commissioner for the summary settlement were approved by the Government of India in 1897 and ultimately sanctioned in 1898. The main features and financial results of this settlement were an enhancement of one anna in the rupee on all revenue other than that assessed on coffee, pepper and arecanut cultivation which realised Rs. 11,891-9-11, an addition of four annas an acre to the ordinary two rupee coffee rate in the case of the best estates not held under title deeds which realised Rs. 1,608-15-4, a new assessment of three annas an acre on *Vontiholas*—hitherto unassessed dry crop lands in North Coorg—which realised Rs. 648-7-1, and a slight increase of assessment on arecanut and pepper gardens which realised Rs. 424-11-4. The total enhancement of assessment was Rs. 14,573-11-8. The nume-

rous excess areas of occupation discovered by the revenue survey (1890-1892) were also assessed for the first time and resulted in revenue amounting to Rs. 45,568-4-4. Including this amount the increase in the revenue demand aggregated to Rs. 60,142. On the expiry of the decade for which the summary settlement was sanctioned, the Chief Commissioner addressed the Government of India in 1906 and the issue of a notification under Rule 49 of the Coorg Land and Revenue Regulation, 1899, authorizing a general reassessment of the land revenue of Coorg, was sanctioned in October 1906. The necessary staff was sanctioned and the resettlement operations were commenced in November of that year.

Soil Classification.

The Rajas' settlement was based upon a soil classification which was comparatively elaborate and recognised the fundamental principle that in the case of wet cultivation in so hilly a country as Coorg an adequate water supply was the first essential. Accordingly, wet lands were divided into seven classes by consideration of their comparative elevation. The best dry lands were similarly divided, while *Vontiholas* (inferior dry lands) were classed according to soil as red, black, sandy and gravelly. Before fixing the assessment of wet lands, however, these seven classes were further divided according to their productivity. Virarajendra ordained eleven and his successor nine classes and these classes were arranged in the order of the number of seers of paddy which a *Sale Kolu* (256 square feet) of the land was assumed to be able to produce. It is quite evident that, however careful the soil classification and however accurate the survey, the arbitrary fixing of the co-efficient of productivity must have vitiated the equity of the final result. No information is forthcoming to show how this element was determined but the inequality of some of the rates which are to all intents and purposes the rates of the Rajas' settlement tends to prove that it was very arbitrarily fixed. The rates at which these classes were assessed at the Rajas' time are as follows :—

Statement of Rajas' rates for Coorg proper with explanation

Class of soil (*Dara*)	*Area in* Sale Kolus *required to produce one* bhutty *of grain*	*Area in* Sale Kolus *required to produce* 100 bhutties	*Equivalent of Column 3 expressed in acres*	*Rate per acre imposed by Dodda-viraraja*	*Rate imposed by Lingaraja*
1	2	3	4	5	6
				Rs. A. P	Rs. A. P.
1	20	2000	11.76	1 2 1	..
2	18⅓	1833⅓	7.84	1 11 2	..
3	10	1000	5.88	2 4 2	1 11 2
4	8	800	4.70	2 13 3	2 2 0
5	6⅔	666⅔	3.91	3 6 5	2 9 11
6	5 5/7	571	3.35	3 15 7	2 15 9
7	5	500	2.94	4 8 5	3 6 5
8	4 4/9	444 4/9	2.61	5 1 9	3 13 3
9	4	400	2.35	5 10 7	4 4 1
10	3 7/11	363 7/11	2.13	6 4 0	4 11 1
11	3⅓	333⅓	1.95	6 13 2	5 2 0

At the time of the Rajas, the calculations were so complicated that to a revenue assessment official to-day the figures pose a formidable problem. The basis was *Sale Kolu* which admitted the production of one *bhutty* of food grains. Two thousand *Sale Kolus* corresponded to 11 acres and 78 guntas *i.e.* roughly 106 *Sale Kolus* represented an acre of land. A cultivator who had 2,000 *Sale Kolus* of land had to pay roughly Rs. 15 as tax.

In accordance with the instructions received from the Government of India, soil classification for purposes of settlement was carried out only in the case of wet and dry crop land, excluding plantation areas. Wet lands were classified according to their soil, sufficiency of irrigation and comparative elevation. It was originally ordered that only two classes of soil should be recognised—loam and sandy soil—but it was subsequently found that the difference between the best and worst varieties was so great and the intermediate varieties so numerous that it was necessary to adopt an intermediate class—sandy loam. Soil containing two-thirds and upwards of loam was classed as loam, that containing two-thirds and upwards of sand as sandy and the rest as sandy loam. Classification according to water supply was made under three heads according to the supply, the source being unimportant. A further distinction was made between high-lying and low-lying lands and this was necessary because of the rapidity with which water flowed. As a result of these, the soil classification had three divisions according to soil, three according to quantity of water supply and two according to elevation and these in combination provided 18 grades of land rearranged for assessment purposes into eight classes. These classes are known in the settlement language of the Madras Presidency as *tarams*—a term which was also adopted in Coorg. The *tarams* finally arranged in order of merit were as follows :—

First taram.—Loam, low-lying with abundant supply.

Second taram.—Sandy loam, low-lying with abundant supply.

Third taram.—Loam low-lying with sufficient supply, loam high-lying with abundant supply, sandy soil, low-lying with abundant supply.

Fourth taram.—Sandy loam low-lying with sufficient supply, sandy loam, high-lying with abundant supply and loam high-lying with sufficient supply.

Fifth taram.—Sandy loam, low-lying with sufficient supply, sandy soil high-lying with abundant supply.

Sixth taram.—Sandy loam, high-lying with sufficient supply,

Seventh taram.—Sandy soil high-lying with sufficient supply.

Eighth taram.—Loam and sandy.

Great care was taken to find out whether the water supply was abundant, sufficient or insufficient. In determining this, the classifier was guided by the conditions of the tank, moisture in the field, the character of stubble, entries in crop inspection registers and information gathered from the cultivators. Wet lands had to be divided into high-lying and low-lying lands. It was customary in the Madras Presidency to allude to unprofitable area under the head "allowances for unculturable waste". This subject deserved special consideration in Coorg, where there was much loss of ground on the terraced fields owing to bunding. Even in the low-lying fields the bunds had to be erected to resist the heavy south-west monsoon. Sufficient data were collected in 1894-1895 by actual measurement of these bunds for the whole of Yedenalknad taluk and on such data, a deduction of five, ten, fifteen and twenty per cent for bunds of a width of 5-10, 10-15, 15-20 and 20 or more feet was allowed in the summary settlement (1896-97). No deduction was allowed for bunds of less than five feet. Some allowance was however considered necessary for the small bunds and a deduction of two-and-half per cent was made in the re-settlement.

Second wet crops were raised in the Tavunad-Sampaje nad and in some parts of the Mercara and Nanjarajpatna taluks. In the latter two taluks, they were not of yearly occurrence being entirely dependent on the north-east monsoon and therefore no extra assessment was imposed on these lands. But for those situated in the Tavunad-Sampajenad area, the system prevailing in Malabar and South Kanara was adopted, *viz*., the charge for the second crop on all lands which yielded two wet crops was consolidated with the ordinary wet rate by the addition of one-quarter of the single crop assessment.

Revenue Settlement 1907-1913.

The settlement operations of the period from 1907 to 1913 had some background. Until 1895, the land revenue continued to be collected in accordance with the settlement conducted by the Rajas between 1805 and 1816, the demand from year to year being recorded in an annual *jamabandi* or settlement of demand. From 1896 right up to the revenue settlement of 1907-1913, the land revenue was levied in accordance with the summary settlement effected in 1896. In the case of land already assessed, the summary settlement merely consisted as a rule in the making of small uniform additions to the various rates in force, the principal object being to assert in practical form the right of Government to enhance the assessment on lands held under a privileged tenure. The population of Coorg according to the Census of 1901 was only 1,80,607 or 114 to the square mile which approximated to what

was found at that time in the Nilgiris. Of the total population, not less than 1,46,000 were dependent on agriculture; of this number, about 28,550 workers in coffee estates were residents of other districts. The internal agricultural population was therefore about 1,18,000 or an average of 74 to the square mile, or only 111 if the 529.19 square miles of reserved forests are excluded. There was hardly any cattle breeding and practically no industry except agriculture, the principal exports being coffee, rice, cardamom, oranges and sandalwood. For some 20 years after the annexation, rice and dry crops were almost the only forms of cultivation. The settlement officer has given a summary of the economic history of the area from about 1789 to 1908. During the period 1834 to 1864, the population rose from 81,000 to 1,19,000. The first coffee estate was opened in 1854 and by 1864, 70,000 acres had been taken up for coffee cultivation. The years 1865 to 1878 marked a period of great prosperity. The land taken up for coffee rose to 84,000 acres and the export of coffee rose to about 5,000 tons. The cultivation of rice on the other hand suffered to some extent on account of the counter attractions of the coffee estates and the area under paddy fell from 76,176 to 72,733 acres.

A striking feature of the tenures in Coorg at the time of the 1907 settlement was the very large proportion of cultivated land held either entirely free of assessment or at privileged rates. The following figures give the acreage.

Held free of assessment.—

		Wet	*Dry*
Jagir	..	1,588	212
Batamanya	..	247	216
Sarvamanya	..	354	38
Matha lands	..	1,220	225
Gandumbli	..	551	608
Naimannu	..	105	196

Paying half the normal assessment.—

Jamma	..	40,088	191
Jodi	..	2,857	367
Naimannu	..	311	158

Paying less than half the normal.—

Umbli	..	7,400	38

It will be seen from the above statement that almost one third of the assessed wet area was being held free of assessment. The Rajas' settlement divided wet lands and the better dry lands into

seven classes according to their relative elevation and consequent capacity for receiving and retaining water. Inferior dry lands or *Vontiholas* were not assessed. The wet lands and the superior dry lands were assessed in proportion to their productivity, each class according to elevation being sub-divided into nine or eleven classes. In the old Sampajenad in which only eight unimportant villages were situated a special classification was adopted. The land was divided into three groups according to water supply and each group was sub-divided into seven classes according to productivity. A cess of two annas ten pies was added in the Sampajenad tract to the ordinary assessment. In the settlement operations, alluvial lands were treated as a separate class capable of bearing a slightly higher special assessment and the remaining wet lands were divided into three classes. Of these factors, sufficiency of water was found to be the most important, elevation came next and the quality of the soil last. The principal crops in Coorg were rice, coffee, ragi and pulses, oranges and other plantation products. In 1907 the money value of the coffee and rice crops was approximately the same, both being between Rs. 30 and 40 lakhs, but from the point of view of the area, paddy was incomparably the more important. The bulk of the coffee was produced in a comparatively small number of estates which employed immigrant labour. Paddy was grown throughout the area and on it the resident agriculturist was almost entirely dependent. While paddy represented about 80,000 acres, the total area under dry field crops seldom exceeded 10,000 acres and was confined almost entirely to the north-east of Nanjarajpatna taluk.

The cultivation expenses of good land, well cultivated, were found by the settlement officer to amount at a liberal estimate to about Rs. 25 per acre. For the first six *tarams* the expenses of cultivation were assumed at rates ranging from Rs. 25 to Rs. 16, for *taram* 7 at Rs. 12 and for *taram* 8 at Rs 3. In South Kanara, the rates adopted varied from Rs. 13-8-0 to Rs. 8 and in Malabar from Rs. 12-8-0 to Rs. 8. The settlement authorities attribute the difference in the estimates in a large measure to the fact that in Coorg the rice crop takes about seven and a half months as against four and a half or five months in South Kanara or Malabar. An allowance of seven and a half per cent was made on account of vicissitudes of season for, although distress was almost unknown, unfavourable distribution of rainfall led to considerable variations in the outturn. At the time of the settlement the sale value of land was particularly noted. The settlement officer arrived at the conclusion that in Coorg land commanded a much smaller value than similar land in the Madras Presidency. This conclusion of the settlement officer was hardly convincing to the Chief Commissioner. According to the mutation registers maintained since 1896, the average price per acre of wet land in 1907, with *bane* attached to it, varied from Rs. 34 in Kiggatnad to Rs. 170 in the Yedenalknad taluk. A general enquiry revealed the normal

value to range from Rs. 70 to Rs. 200 per acre. In Coorg only six per cent of the wet land produced more than one crop while in South Kanara according to the settlement report for the year 1902 *Majil* land which produced annually two crops including at least one of paddy was estimated at only from Rs. 25 to Rs. 100 an acre and *baiyal* land which produced three crops, with two at least of paddy, was estimated at from Rs. 100 to Rs. 250, going up sometimes to Rs. 800 or Rs. 1,000. But whatever the comparative value of wet land in Coorg, the settlement officer had good grounds for his opinion that it was the produce of the poorer qualities of soil which alone came into the markets and that these under the Rajas' settlement bore an unduly high assessment as compared with the lands of better quality.

Proposed rates of assessment.

The Government of India directed that the settlement officer, after working out estimates of gross produce and net profits, should calculate for the different classes of soil, the rates which in his opinion would represent a fair assessment, such rates being proportioned to each other in accordance with the ascertained rental values where available. These rates should then be tested by the settlement officer's opinion as to the increase or decrease as the case may be which should result from the settlement operations in the case of each taluk and where necessary should be altered accordingly. Mr. Gustav Haller who was the settlement officer wrote a general report and submitted the same to the Chief Commissioner in February 1910. At the time of writing his report, the settlement operations with regard to the Kiggatnad and Padinalknad taluks were completed. The settlement officer had come to the conclusion in his general report that it was impossible in Coorg to utilise rental values as an absolute criterion in refixing the assessment. Competition had not exerted its full force. The renting value of land did not represent a full and fair economic rent and was not equivalent to the true net profits of cultivation Absentee land-lords were extremely rare, the tenant class being almost non-existent. As a rule, leases were found only where the landlord had more land than he could conveniently cultivate and where the tenant was a resident of the same village with insufficient land of his own for the maintenance of his family.

Proposals for the assessment of dry crops would be discussed later as almost the whole of the Nanjarajpatna taluk comes under dry crops. The crops now being discussed are paddy and plantation crops. As regards the latter, only a few minor proposals remained to receive the approval of the Government of India, interim orders having already been conveyed. The orders already received were as follows. The rates of assessment already in force remained unaltered, *viz.*, Rs. 2-4-0 per acre for the best estates except those held at Rs. 2 under specific title deeds and Rs. 2 per acre for other estates. A temporary reduction of these rates was proposed to be granted from time to time when the land was

unable to bear the full assessment. Coffee lands on which coffee cultivation had been abandoned and on which cardamoms were cultivated continued to be assessed at Re. 1 per acre.

Wet Land.—The maximum rates proposed by the settlement officer for wet lands were as follows :—

Alluvial land	..	Rs. 5-0-0 per acre
Taram I	..	Rs. 4-12-0 per acre
Taram II	..	Rs. 4-8-0 per acre
Taram III	..	Rs. 4-4-0 per acre
Taram IV	..	Rs. 3-12-0 per acre
Taram V	..	Rs. 3-8-0 per acre
Taram VI	..	Rs. 3-4-0 per acre
Taram VII	..	Rs. 2-12-0 per acre
Taram VIII	..	Rs. 1-4-0 per acre

The above rates were worked out by the settlement officer upon a general consideration of what would be a fair assessment on the lands in Padinalknad and Kiggatnad taluks. In accordance with the instructions of the Government of India to frame not only a gross produce estimate but also a net profits estimate, the settlement officer took into account all necessary data available. The value of straw was not considered in arriving at the net profits of cultivation. This concession to the raiyats did not benefit them, as cost of feeding the ploughing bullocks was omitted while calculating the cultivation expenses.

Oranges in 1907 were cultivated on 2,862 acres, a large portion of which however was entitled under the rules to be free of assessment. A rough estimate of the value of the crop raised in orange orchards was Rs. 1,00,000 per annum. The rates of assessment which were in force since 1897, varied from Rs. 2 to annas eight an acre. No alteration of the rates was proposed. Pepper was doing well in Coorg. The area under pepper in 1907 was 3,184 acres. It was proposed to continue the rates under pepper at the same rates as coffee estates. The settlement authorities proposed to reduce from eight annas to four annas per acre the assessment on land from which coffee had gone out. These lands remained as grazing fields for cattle. The Chief Commissioner accepted this proposal except that in the case of coffee lands acquired under the waste land rules and held under a title deed, the already existing rate of eight annas should be maintained. The Kiggatnad taluk was the most southerly of the then five taluks of Coorg. Of the total area of 269,343 acres, no less than 118,908 acres were under Government forests. At the same time, the relative flatness of the taluk enabled the cultivation of broad stretches of paddy lands, the area of assessed rice lands for 1907-1908 being 29,805 acres out of a total paddy acreage of 96,536 for the whole Coorg area. During the eleven years ending

1907-1908, an average of almost 20% of the rice lands remained uncultivated. The population of the taluk at the time of the settlement was 37,000 which was distributed over 68 villages and showed a satisfactory increase over the figures for 1891 and 1881. The land revenue from wet lands in respect of this taluk rose from Rs. 49,000 in 1888-1889 to Rs. 65,000 in 1908 1909. During the same period, the revenue derived from coffee lands fell from Rs. 15,200 to Rs. 11,800. In the Padinalknad taluk, the wet land demand rose steadily from Rs. 17,296 in 1888-1889 to Rs. 25,270 in 1908-1909.

Result of the Settlement.

As a result of the 1907-1913 settlement, the total amount assessed on all classes of cultivated lands stood at Rs. 3,45,066. The area under cultivation at that time was 2,17,796 acres. The breakup of figures is as follows :—

Wet lands.—97,856 acres with an assessment of Rs. 2,22,150.

Dry lands.—20,650 acres with an assessment of Rs. 13,714-1-0.

Coffee Estates.—84,042 acres with an assessment of Rs. 97,966-8-0.

Cardamoms.—9,838 acres with an assessment of Rs. 9,352-1-0.

Oranges.—4,258 acres with an assessment of Rs. 1,005-1-0.

Arecanut and Coconuts.—213 acres with an assessment of Rs. 763-10-0.

Pepper Khans.—930 acres with an assessment of Rs. 115.

Assessment Rates.

On account of the settlement, the following rates were levied.

RATES FOR KIGGATNAD AND YEDENALKNAD.

Taram	Units			
	1-6	7-9 & 10-12	13-16-17-20	21-24
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Alluvial ..	5 0 0	4 14 0	4 12 0	4 8 0
1 ..	4 12 0	4 10 0	4 8 0	4 4 0
2 ..	4 8 0	4 6 0	4 4 0	4 0 0
3 ..	4 4 0	4 2 0	4 0 0	3 12 0
4 ..	3 12 0	3 10 0	3 8 0	3 4 0
5 ..	3 8 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	3 0 0
6 ..	3 4 0	3 2 0	3 0 0,	2 12 0
7 ..	2 12 0	2 10 0	2 8 0	2 4 0
8 ..	1 4 0	1 2 0	1 0 0	0 12 0

RATES FOR PADINALKNAD, MERCARA AND NANJARAJPATNA TALUKS.

Taram	Units					
	1-6	7-9	10-12	13-16	17-20	21-24
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Alluvial ..	5 0 0	4 14 0	4 12 0	4 10 0	4 6 0	4 2 0
1 ..	4 12 0	4 10 0	4 8 0	4 6 0	4 2 0	3 14 0
2 ..	4 8 0	4 6 0	4 4 0	4 2 0	3 14 0	3 10 0
3 ..	4 4 0	4 2 0	4 0 0	3 14 0	3 10 0	3 6 0
4 ..	3 12 0	3 10 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 6 0	3 2 0
5 ..	3 8 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	2 14 0	2 10 0
6 ..	3 4 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	2 10 0	2 6 0
7 ..	2 12 0	2 10 0	2 8 0	2 6 0	2 2 0	1 14 0
8 ..	1 4 0	1 2 0	1 0 0	0 14 0	0 10 0	0 6 0

DRY RATES FOR NANJARAJPATNA TALUK

Soil	Taram	For Nanjarajpatna hobli	For the rest of the taluk
		Rs. a p.	Rs. a. p.
Black cotton ..	1	2 0 0	1 0 0
Loam ..	2	1 8 0	0 14 0
Sandy loam ..	3	1 0 0	0 12 0
Sandy soil ..	4	0 12 0	0 8 0
Gravelly soil ..	5	0 8 0	0 6 0
	Grazing land.	0 4 0	0 4 0

The rates for coconut gardens were assessed from Rs. 2 to Rs. 8 per acre while for arecanuts, the rates varied from Rs. 1-8-0 to Rs. 7-0-0.

Coffee rates.—The assessment rates for coffee lands were as follows :—

If one-fourth or more of the area contained good coffee or pepper, the rate levied was Rs. 2 per acre.

If one-fourth or more of the area contained indifferent coffee or pepper, the rate was Re. 1 per acre.

If less than one-fourth of the area contained good coffee or pepper, the rate was Re. 1 per acre.

If less than one-fourth of the area contained indifferent coffee or pepper, the rate was annas eight.

Settlement Procedure.

The procedure for settlement of lands, though peculiar in Coorg, did not materially affect the classification. Definite instructions were issued by the Government of India to follow the usage and custom which prevailed in the tract having regard to the various land tenures. Each classifier appointed for the purpose had to take up a village which was assigned to him by the settlement officer and finish his work in due course. The classifier had with him the village map, the latest *jamabandi* registers for wet and dry lands, coffee lands and *banes*. He had also with him the crop inspection registers since 1898 to 1899 together with the mutation register. Before the work of settlement was actually commenced, the classifier had to post in a conspicuous place of the village, a copy of the Chief Commissioner's notification announcing that the settlement operations had begun. The classification of wet lands had to be taken up first and all details had to be carefully entered on a prescribed form. Great care was taken to find out whether the water supply was abundant, sufficient or insufficient. In determinig this, the classifier was guided by the condition of the tank, moisture in the fields, the character of stubble, entries in crop inspection registers and information gathered from the cultivators. The classifier divided the wet lands into high-lying and low-lying lands. The various tenures like *sagu, jamma, umbli, jodi, jahgir*, leased or otherwise were entered in the separate column. After ascertaining the position of the occupied land, the classifier recorded all survey numbers with areas. All improvements made by the land holder such as construction of tanks, channels, anicuts, embankments and drainage were noted. After completion of the wet lands, the classifier had to attend to coffee and dry lands. Each information had to be recorded from field inspections. It was the duty of the classifier to bring to the notice of the settlement officer

any inaccuracies found in the village map, whether due to mistakes in the survey or to omissions on the part of the Land Records Department.

The following terms were in general use at the time of settlement.

Unalienated banes (*jamma, sagu, jodi, jahgir,* and *umbli*) of which ten acres were cultivated free of assessment. These *banes* were attached to the wet lands and were obtained by the owners prior to 21st May 1886. Cultivation not exceeding ten acres was totally exempted from assessment. But there were a few exceptional cases. Europeans who owned such *banes* could not claim the privilege of free assessment for ten acres. A few indigenous coffee planters were also debarred from this privilege. As long as the *bane* was uncultivated, no assessment was levied.

Alienated banes.—Coffee cultivation in these alienated *banes* was assessed from the date of cultivation at Rs. 2 or Rs. 2-4-0 per acre. The uncultivated area was assessed at annas four per acre.

Paisari lands.—These lands were granted by the Government under the waste land or other rules. If they were bought under the waste land rules they were held free of assessment for four years. Then they paid Re. 1-0-0 per acre from the fourth to the twelfth year. From the 13th year, they were liable to pay at the full rate, *viz.*, Rs. 2 per acre.

Hitlumanedalas.—These were intended for dwelling places of cultivators. In *hitlumanedalas* all cultivation within one acre was free of assessment. These *hitlumanedalas* varied in size from one-fourth to 15 acres or more.

Bidukulas.—These were house sites for non-agriculturists paying house tax according to the class of the occupant ranging from Re. 0-4-10 to Rs. 3-3-3 per annum. If the *Bidukulas* were put under cultivation, the land was assessed at the ordinary rates.

Government Paisaris.—These were waste lands belonging to Government and include *Devarakadus, Urudves* and *Urumbales.*

Since the designations used to represent the tenures of these various classes of land were found unsatisfactory, the following terms came into force since the settlement date (1907-1913)—privileged bane (*jamma, sagu, jodi, jahgir* and *umbli*), unprivileged bane (*jamma, sagu,* and *jodi*), alienated *bane, sagu* land, *hitlu,* alienated *hitlu,* house site, leased cardamom *malles,* cardamom *sagu* and *paisari.*

Revision of Assessment.

Mercara Taluk.—The assessed area of wet land in the Mercara taluk at the time of the revision of assessment in 1911 was 11,719 acres of which about 2,576 acres representing 22% of the

total area were fallow since 1897. Almost the entire fallow land consisted of uncultivated lands retained as pasture by coffee planters. Dry cultivation was being pursued only in eight of the eastern villages to an extent of 213.44 acres. Except in a few gardens in the Monnangeri village below the ghats, arecanut and coconut were not being cultivated. The total area of coffee lands in the taluk was 23,629 acres. The assessment for the whole taluk at the time of the last settlement was Rs. 52,619-9-10. It was proposed to increase this to Rs. 54,324-12-9, the net increase being 3.24%.

Padinalknad Taluk.—The assessed area under paddy in 1908 was 15,915 acres of which 2,511 acres were uncultivated. There was a steady increase under paddy cultivation in the assessed area since 1897-1898 in all *nads* amounting to a total increase of 979 acres of which 354 acres were unassessed waste taken up for wet cultivation. The climate in this taluk is too damp for dry cultivation. Arecanut and coconut thrive well in Sampajenad. Coffee was formerly grown extensively. Indeed, its cultivation originated in Nalknad and the famous Nalknad coffee seed was once much in demand. At the time of revision, coffee was grown in 13,362 acres. The assessment for the whole taluk at the time of the last settlement was Rs. 38,986-15-10. It was proposed to increase this to Rs. 42,018-2-7, the net increase being 7.77%.

Kiggatnad Taluk.—In connection with the summary settlement in 1896, Mr. Meikli John, Commissioner of Coorg, remarked as follows on the condition of the people of this taluk: "Most rice lands are dependent on the rains, which here are not so certain as in North Coorg and almost every third year there is a partial failure of crops for want of water". Since this was written, no marked improvement was seen even in 1910. Only two channels of some importance were constructed. But there had been a steady decline in the coffee industry. At the time of the revision (1910) there were 30,078 acres of wet land, 11,669 acres of coffee land and 889 acres of orange orchards. The old assessment for the taluk was Rs. 76,926-1-6. This was proposed to be enhanced to Rs. 78,171-0-6, the net increase being 1.62%.

Yedenalknad Taluk.—From available figures, it is seen that the total assessed area of wet lands in this taluk at the time of the revision was 19,877 acres. The total area of coffee land was 30,538 acres. There were 3,221 acres of orange orchards. About 30 square miles of the taluk lie in the Western Ghats, with no prominent peaks but containing splendid scenery. There is another name for this taluk. It is called the bamboo area because the jungles have a profusion of bamboos. At the old assessment rates, the revenue demand for this taluk was Rs. 87,348-11-3. This was proposed to be enhanced to Rs. 91,414-11-8, the net increase being 4.65%.

Nanjarajpatna Taluk.— There was no taluk in the Coorg area which presented such a variety in climate as well as in surface as the Nanjarajpatna taluk. Half the area of the taluk chiefly to the east was plain country resembling that of the adjoining Mysore district while the western portion rose from undulating ground to steep grass hills covered here and there by isolated forests which gradually became more dense until the impenetrable jungle of the very steep Western Ghats was reached. The Nanjarajpatna Kanive hobli was cultivated almost exclusively with dry crops, while rice was the chief product in the northern hoblis, At the time of the revision, the taluk had 19,551 acres of wet land, 20,307 acres of dry land and 13,788 acres of coffee land. The old demand stood at Rs. 72,517-3-6. This was proposed to be enhanced to Rs. 75,935-7-6, the net increase being 4.71%.

The settlement report consisting of a general report for the entire Coorg area and separate proposals for the settlement of the Kiggatnad and Padinalknad taluks were submitted to the Chief Commissioner on the 10th February 1910 and forwarded to the Government of India with the Chief Commissioner's review dated 28th June 1910. The orders of the Government of India sanctioning the proposals were received in September 1910. Accordingly, the revised assessment was introduced for the Kiggatnad and Padinalknad taluks in 1911 and came into force in 1912. The reports for the other taluks were subsequently submitted and the final sanction of the Chief Commissioner was received on 7th March 1913 in respect of Nanjarajpatna and Mercara taluks and on 25th March 1913 in respect of Yedenalknad taluk.

It is now about half a century since the revisional assessment rates were fixed in Coorg. The revision settlement report in respect of the present three taluks of the district (Mercara, Virajpet and Somwarpet) was published in June 1964 and the Government have since approved the same in their order dated 25th May 1965.

Land Revenue Collection.

Prior to 1899, the collection of assessed land revenue was regulated by standing orders called the collection of revenue standing orders which were the legal basis of revenue administration. When these standing orders were in force, the land revenue derived was as follows:—

Year	Rs.
1834–35	89,915
1848–50	1,27,119
1859–60	1,62,665
1869–70	1,70,073
1875–76	2,30,082

In 1899, the Coorg Government enacted a law called the Coorg Land and Revenue Regulation which replaced the old standing orders. This law has since been replaced by the New Mysore Land Revenue Code which came into force in 1964. Before discussing the revenue demand and collection of the assessed revenue, it is necessary here to give a statement of the revenue demand figures from 1886 which are readily available. The following table indicates the statement of land revenue including all cesses.

Year			Rs.
1886–87	..	..	3,35,141
1896–97	..	..	4,48,123
1906–07	..	..	3,59,224
1907–08	..	..	3,62,076
1908–09	..	..	3,02,974

The sudden rise in the demand in the year 1896-97 was due to the summary settlement. The coffee demand which is nearly one-third of the total revenue demand forms the principal item of the Coorg revenue realisations. The following figures of the coffee estate revenue are readily available since 1888-89. The following table indicates the actual demand in respect of coffee lands.

Year			Rs.
1888–89	..	..	1,36,995
1898–99	..	..	1,46,912
1904–05	..	..	1,11,925
1908–09	..	..	1,08,648

From the above table it is seen that the demand relating to coffee was showing a downward trend. But the process of the survival of the fittest has eliminated most of the inferior cultivation and what now remains is likely to hold its own for many years to come.

The land revenue demand in 1924-25 was Rs. 3,72,009 and this demand increased to Rs. 3,85,862 in 1932-33. For 20 years thereafter the demand did not show any appreciable variations. In 1951-52, the demand was Rs. 3,83,317 which increased to Rs. 4,80,694 in 1954-55. In 1955-56, just prior to the States' reorganisation, the revenue demand was Rs. 6,02,203.

With the introduction of the District Fund Regulation of 1900, the *dhuli*-tax and plough tax were abolished and a new local cess at one anna in the rupee on the land revenue assessment—the District Fund Cess—was introduced. This new cess came into existence in 1901-1902. The Land Record or Village Officers' Cess was abolished in 1905-1906 under orders of the Government of India.

Ordinary land revenue is payable in three instalments under the Coorg Land and Revenue Regulation (1899) at the rate of four annas in the rupee in January, six annas in the rupee in February and six annas in the rupee in March. The assessment on the lands on which the *Vaishaka* crop is raised (a very small area) is collected in four equal instalments in the months of September, October, November and December. Cardamom assessment is collected in two equal instalments falling due on the 20th January and 20th February. These instalment collections were authorised in 1903 and 1904. During the years, the procedure relating to collection of revenue has been made more strict, a fact which has tended to accentuate the results of the summary settlement.

At the time of the revision of assessment (1913), Coorg was divided into five taluks with 19 *nads*, each *nad* being under the charge of a *Parpathigar*. Each *nad* was again divided into circles consisting of from four to thirty villages under the supervision of a *Shanbogue*. The *Subedars* in charge of taluks were responsible for the due performance of their duties by all the *Parpathigars*, while they again worked under the supervision of the Revenue Divisional Officer. The Coorg district has now three taluks, each being administered by a Tahsildar for revenue purposes.

Under the Coorg Land and Revenue Regulation, 1899, seasonal remissions are given, whenever crops fail due to natural distress. In addition to seasonal remissions, reduction of assessment is allowed on deteriorated coffee estates also.

The land revenue demand varies from taluk to taluk and is not uniform because of several factors like the soil classification, irrigation facilities and nearness to markets. A statement showing the land revenue demand for the year 1961-62 is appended at the end of the chapter.

The settlement effected in 1913 did not touch the rubber cultivation. A large company, the Kadamakal Rubber Syndicate, opened some rubber plantations in the Monnangeri, Made and Galibeedu villages in the Mercara taluk. The rubber trees were planted in Monnangeri and Made in abandoned coffee lands and in Galibeedu in virgin forests. The land was granted according to the rules laid down in a Government notification dated 29th April 1909. Under this notification, the land so granted to rubber cultivators was made free of assessment for eight years from the date of plantation. Thereafter an assessment of Rs. 2 per acre was levied. This rate was subject to revision at the end of 30 years. The total area planted at the time of the Government's permission was 1182.12 acres.

Resettlement Operations (1950-56).— The erstwhile Government of Coorg conducted resettlement operations between the years 1950-1956. At the time of the re-settlement the area of assessed fields was as follows :

Wet cultivation	..	1,03,647.42 acres
Coffee	..	94,184.19 acres
Orange	..	28,203.75 acres
Cardamom	..	13,904.79 acres
Dry crop	..	20,900.92 acres
Pepper	..	479.46 acres
Coconuts	..	474.83 acres
Arecanut	..	531.11 acres
Rubber	..	3,943.36 acres
Tea	..	1,222.40 acres
Mango	..	3.04 acres
Bane (Grazing land attached to wet jamma land called Inam all unassessed).		2,02,590.08 acres
Paisaris called as *Kharab* lands belonging to Government.	..	4,32,254.47¾ acres

During 1922-23, the Government of Coorg attempted to have a fresh survey of all cultivated lands in order to arrive at a correct assessment of numbers. But it had to be given up because of the huge cost involved.

Land Reforms.

A description of the district's land distribution pattern is necessary before atttempting to discuss the landlord-tenant relationship which has assumed importance of late. There are in all 51,523 land holdings covering an area of 3,12,119 acres. This gives roughly six acres for each holding. But in the size group below five acres there are 42,112 holdings having an area of 1,27,790 acres. Roughly, this comes to about three acres per holding which obviously is uneconomic. Only 237 holdings in Coorg have 100 acres or more in each holding. The district has particularly a large number of small holdings. Out of a total owned area of 3,12,119 acres, the area leased out comes to about 63,325 acres or 20.29 per cent to land owned which compared to South Kanara and North Kanara is not much. Though the area leased under various forms of tenancy is rather more in Coorg than in other districts, the relationship between the tenant and the landlord has always been cordial. There is nothing on record to show the existence of any agrarian dispute or friction between the owner and the tenant. According to the 1951 Census, there were only 23,071 tenant cultivators. It is clear that the agricultural economy of the district largely approaches the ideal of peasant proprietors since 77,538 persons are owner-cultivators. The absentee landlords or non-cultivating owners are only 7,169. The tenant class numbering only 23,071 await protection under

land reforms, so as to gain economic security and social well-being. Tenancy reforms arose because the raiyats had an unrestricted right of transfer and sub-letting. The First Five-Year Plan envisaged details regarding the tackling of the problems of tenancy by recourse to legislation. The recommendations of the Planning Commission aimed at security of tenure for the tenants, a right of purchase, and the regulation of rents.

There was no tenancy law at all in Coorg up to 11th March 1957 when the new Mysore State Government promulgated the Coorg Tenants Ordinance. This ordinance and the Coorg Tenants Act which replaced it were only interim measures pending a comprehensive Land Reforms Act. The Coorg Tenants Act envisaged that the maximum rent should not exceed one-third of the crop and that landlords should not evict tenants. Surrenders were to be made only in writing and verified before the *Subedar* and registered in his office. Lands surrendered by tenants were taken under Government management and leased out to co-operative farming societies, agricultural labourers, landless persons and other agriculturists in that order.

After the States' reorganisation in 1956, there was a persistent demand to appoint a Land Reforms Committee. The Mysore Tenancy and Agricultural Land Laws Committee was appointed on 10th May 1957 with a view to examining the existing tenancy and agricultural land laws and to make recommendations for a comprehensive land reform measure. The Committee after fully examining all aspects submitted its report in 1958. The Government of Mysore after studying the report introduced a Bill called the Mysore Land Reforms Bill before the legislature in 1958. The Mysore Legislative Assembly discussed the Joint Select Committee's report and adopted the Mysore Land Reforms Bill in September 1961. Later on, it was adopted in the upper house. The bill has now become law. According to the Act, land ceilings are imposed on the basis of 27 standard acres as the ceiling. For future acquisitions, only 18 standard acres are fixed. According to Section 2 (32) of the Act, a standard acre means one acre of the first class of land or an extent equivalent thereto consisting of any one or more classes of land specified in the schedule. There are seven classes specified in the Act. Plantation crops, *viz.*, coffee, tea, rubber, cardamoms and pepper, orchards, specialised farms, lands used for sugarcane farms and efficiently managed farms are exempted from the operation of the ceiling. The Act prohibits transfers of agricultural land to non-agriculturists, except with the permission of the Assistant Commissioner but transfers to Government, co-operative institutions and the Indian Coffee Board are permitted. Lands cannot be left uncultivated. Judicial officers are to be appointed to function as tribunals. The District Judge of the area will hear appeals from the decisions of the tribunals. Questions of law are decided by the

High Court. These land reforms are aimed at securing social justice, equal opportunities for all and elimination of disparities.

Taxes other than Land Revenue.

In addition to the land revenue, the other main sources of income are sales tax, agricultural income tax, stamp duties and registration fees. The Central Government is collecting income-tax and excise duties.

Agricultural Income-tax.

Income on agricultural produce is levied as per the Coorg Agricultural Income Tax Act, 1951, a law enacted when Coorg was a separate Part 'C' State in the Indian Union. The economy of Coorg being essentially agrarian, the finance to run the administration was mainly derived from the resources of the agriculturists. In 1951, a scheme for imposing a tax on agricultural income was conceived. The war boom and the post-war rise in prices had their impact on the prices of coffee, cardamom, orange and pepper. There was a phenomenal increase in the income of the coffee and cardamom planters. Soon after the Indian Constitution came into being, the popular government of Coorg introduced a new measure to raise a tax on agricultural produce. The Coorg Agricultural Income-Tax Act (Act I of 1951) came into effect after the President of India gave his assent to it on 13th May 1951. This new Act was modelled on the pattern of the Indian Income-Tax Act, 1922. The Agricultural Income-Tax Acts of the old Travancore State and of Assam and West Bengal gave much guidance in this matter. Under the provisions of the Act, assessees have been divided into six classes, *viz*., individuals, Hindu undivided family, Marumakkatayam ward or Aliyasantana family, firm, association of persons and company. Excepting the Hindu undivided family, all other classes of assessees have to pay a tax, if their agricultural income for any one year exceeds Rs. 3,500. The taxable minimum in the case of the Hindu undivided family is Rs. 7,000. The rates of the tax have been specified in the schedule of the Act and it is collected on a slab scale. In the beginning, when the measure was implemented, the demand was only three lakhs of rupees. The revenue went on increasing from year to year. A table of the demand under the Agricultural Income Tax since its inception is given below. The tax is also levied on forest timber.

1950-51	..	Rs. 3,09,182
1951-52	..	Rs. 13,26,767
1952-53	..	Rs. 21,07,343
1953-54	..	Rs. 17,57,471
1954-55	..	Rs. 26,38,508
1955-56	..	Rs. 24,20,780
1957-58	..	Rs. 40,16,533
1958-59	..	Rs. 82,30,692
1959-60	..	Rs. 55,91,097

1960-61	.. Rs. 43,81,259
1961-62	.. Rs. 36,73,138

After the merger of the Coorg district with the new Mysore State on 1st November 1956, the realisation of the tax was done as per the Mysore Agricultural Income Tax Act of 1957. Some changes were made exempting certain categories of agricultural produce like non-commercial crops, while the rate of levy of the tax was raised from 25 paise in the old Act to 40 paise per rupee. The taxes are collected by the Mysore Commercial Taxes Department. The variation in the annual demand as noted in the table given is due to several factors. Agricultural income is not always steady. It fluctuates according to seasonal conditions and market facilities. More than anything, the coffee crop in Coorg depends on several conditions like the occurrence of blossom showers, timely monsoon rains and the world demand.

Registration.

The Deputy Commissioner of the district as the *ex-officio* District Registrar is in charge of registrations under the general supervision of the Inspector-General of Registration and the Commissioner of Stamps in Mysore. There are, in all, four Sub-Registrars in Mercara, Somwarpet, Virajpet and Ponnampet. The registrations are done according to the Indian Registration Act. The Sub-Registrars are also Collectors under Section 16 of the Mysore Stamps Act, 1957. The total net income for 1961-62 under registrations came to Rs. 25,783-75.

Stamps.

The Deputy Commissioner is in over-all charge of the Stamps Department. The total revenue derived in 1961-62 from stamps was Rs. 78,578. The judicial and non-judicial stamps are issued by the District Treasury Officer and Sub-Treasury Officers to the licensed vendors for sale to the public.

Commercial Taxes.

Every dealer whose annual turnover is Rs. 7,500 or more has to get himself registered under Section 10(1) of the Mysore Sales Tax Act, 1957. After getting himself duly registered he has to file a return of turn-over every year as required by Section 12(1) and (13) of the Act. The sales tax on the turnover is levied under Section 5(1) (2) and (4) of the Act. The tax is levied on single point and multi-point transactions. There are some goods which are exempted from the tax and these are specified in the schedule attached to the Act. The fee of registration for dealers is Rs. 6. In 1960-61, 935 assessments were completed in Coorg yielding a total tax of Rs. 4,06,991-18, as against Rs. 3,18,191-10 in 1959-60. Up to October 1961 in 1961-62, the tax realised came to Rs. 27,984-34. Under the various provisions of the law, 214 prosecutions were launched during 1960-61.

CENTRAL TAXES.

Income Tax.

The Income Tax Office at Mercara was established as a separate office in 1960, having jurisdiction over the entire Coorg district and the Hunsur and Periyapatna taluks of the Mysore district. The income-tax is levied according to the Income Tax Act, 1961. During 1960-61, there were in all 731 assessees in the district comprising the following:—

	Salary	Commercial
Urban ..	35	309
Rural ..	141	246

Assessees under the wealth-tax were 36, expenditure tax 40 and gift tax five. There were 36 assessees under super tax and 346 assessees in the income group between Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 10,000.

The income-tax collected under all heads during 1960-61 was as follows:—

	Rs.
Income Tax ..	13,34,000
Wealth Tax ..	82,879
Expenditure Tax .	73,830
Gift Tax ..	11,800

Excise Duty.

The Central Excise administration in Coorg is collecting excise duties on coffee, tea and tobacco. Excise Offices are situated in Mercara, Virajpet and Kushalnagar. The levy on tobacco was first introduced in Coorg in 1943 and on coffee and tea in 1944. The total collections for 1959-60 and 1960-61 were as follows:

Commodity	1959-60	1960-61
	Rs.	Rs.
Coffee ..	5,53,092	7,07,524
Tea ..	15,963	16,572
Tobacco ..	2,904	76

Coorg district for purposes of Central Excise levy is under the Central Excise jurisdiction of the Hassan Circle. Coorg district is sub-divided into multiple officers' ranges located in Mercara, Virajpet and Kushalnagar. These offices have inspectors and sub-inspectors who look to the collection.

REVENUE DEMAND OF COORG DISTRICT (1961-62)

(TABULATED MONTHLY).

Taluk	1961					
	April		*May*		*June*	
1	2		3		4	
	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.
Mercara ..	1,80,435	00	1,87,843	98	1,88,893	08
Virajpet ..	4,06,877	80	4,09,044	20	4,10,860	04
Somwarpet ..	2,92,702	58	3,10,537	10	3,11,853	94

Taluk	1961					
	July		*August*		*September*	
	5		6		7	
	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.
Mercara ..	55,093	96	56,747	40	53,779	93
Virajpet ..	76,674	95	77,785	28	78,445	65
Somwarpet ..	40,868	06	41,519	21	45,779	09

Taluk	1961					
	October		*November*		*December*	
	8		9		10	
	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.
Mercara ..	59,826	37	62,231	89	63,374	46
Virajpet ..	79,224	93	79,595	71	79,916	49
Somwarpet ..	51,063	09	51,063	09	61,453	28

Taluk		1962				
	January		*February*		*March*	
	11		12		13	
	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.
Mercara ..	1,02,026	30	1,85,216	58	1,88,643	14
Virajpet ..	3,68,786	51	3,74,200	26	3,78,100	29
Somwarpet ..	2,45,004	30	2,43,123	65	2,45,828	36

N.B.—These demands noted for each month include land revenue, miscellaneous revenue, house-tax and special cesses.

Annual Revenue Demand as per District Budget Figures (1961-62).

Category	*Amount in Rupees.*
Fixed Land Revenue Demand ..	4,80,000
Sale proceeds of waste lands and redemption of land revenue	1,16,000
Recovery on account of survey and settlement charges.	5,500
Miscellaneous Recoveries ..	1,70,000
Sundry ..	500
Total ..	7,72,000

CHAPTER XII

LAW, ORDER AND JUSTICE

Early History. DURING the time of the Rajas, the forms of judicial procedure in Coorg were very primitive. Custom and usage took the place of law. The enforcement of customary practices did not require any complicated system of police. The limited extent of the Coorg territory helped vigilant control over all the area. Intelligence of any criminal occurrence was conveyed with expeditiousness. Except on the known jungle paths, ingress and egress were prohibited. At all points of entry on the boundary of Coorg, a guard house or a check-post was established where the travellers were subjected to scrutiny. A passport was considered absolutely necessary for entry into Coorg. The people of Coorg were under restrictions, none being permitted to go out without permission. Those who wanted to leave the country had to prefer a petition to the Government stating their reasons in the most explicit terms. If any person was permitted to leave the country, the members of his family in almost every case had to remain behind as a pledge for his return. Emigration was strictly prohibited. The commission of the crime was followed by a punishment that bore but little proportion to the guilt. It was indeed openly said by the inhabitants of neighbouring countries that Coorg in those days was a large prison from which there was no escape.

During the time of the Rajas, there was no organised police force. The peons at the different Government offices and guard houses performed all the duties of the police. In the Coorg country itself, tumults and disturbances were practically unknown, and the peaceful and orderly manner of the people rarely gave occasion for Government interference. The reverence for private possessions and property was indeed great and there arose no occasion for thefts or pilferages. Highway robbery was not heard of and the usual vices and social strife that were common in other parts were not common in Coorg. There was security of person and property to the ordinary traveller. Strangers to Coorg were looked upon with suspicion and they were excluded from all intercourse with the local population. In short, a suspicious and inquisitorial policy was observable and a strict surveillance

was exercised. Like the Nayars of Malabar, each raiyat was a soldier performing police duties. The Coorgs held their lands under a military tenure and in return were obliged to guard the inhabitants. They consisted of *Sarvakarigar, Karigar, Subedar* and *Jamedar*. The raiyats provided sufficient guards to do police work.

1. Police.

When the British took over Coorg in 1834, the old pattern of police administration in that principality was continued. Forty years after the annexation, very little change was observed. In the towns of Mercara and Virajpet, there was a small body of what may be termed regular police consisting of 26 men for both the towns, including daffedars and peons whose annual cost to Government amounted to Rs. 1,596. The *Jamma* raiyats of Coorg still continued to discharge the duties of a feudal police and for such a wooded and mountainous tract as Coorg, no better body of men could be found. In the Malnad districts of Mysore also which, in physical aspect, bear a resemblance to Coorg, it was found impossible to maintain a body of regular police on the same footing and pay as in other parts of Mysore, with any approach to efficiency. The system of police in Coorg in 1868-69, was analogous to the village system. It was felt that the increase in wealth and prosperity of Coorg generally, and of the towns in particular, required a more efficient and better organised system than was found in the rural parts. Though improvements were effected in all branches of the administration, the police did not figure in the reorganisation. The dacoities which occurred in Coorg in 1868 as noticed in the criminal administration report, partook more of the character of border raids than offences committed by professional gangs. A decade later, that is in 1878-79, the strength of the regular or town police consisted of 24 peons and two daffedars. The crime returns of 1878-79 showed a decrease of 25 per cent in the total number of offences as contrasted with the previous year, the figures being 713 as against 949. The number of murders reported was the same in both the years, namely, five.

The rural police or the village police force was under *Subedars* and *Parpathigars* and *Patels*. They were in charge of prevention of civil disturbances, assaults and other acts of breach of the peace. They were to apprehend and send to the *Daryaft Catcherry* any person who was accused of robbery. The patels of the village and the villagers conjointly protected their villages from depredations of robbers. From the proclamation of Colonel Fraser in April 1834, it is seen that he upheld the authority of the local officials, reserving to himself as the representative of the Governor-General, the prerogative of the Raja. On 30th August 1834, he issued rules for the conduct

of the district functionaries in Coorg. This order was superseded in judicial matters by the introduction in 1861 of the Penal Code and in 1862 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The mode of punishment underwent rapid changes from one of cruelty during the Rajas' time to that of a civilised way of punishing the wrong-doer. During the rule of the Rajas, the ordinary culprit was corrected with the whip or the offender expiated his crimes by labouring for a certain time in the public works. It was only when the transgression was against the State that the criminal was treated with rigour. Punishments of a serious kind were inflicted only by order of the chief, who, it is said, had himself more than once descended to the office of the executioner when the individual had personally offended him. The ordinary way of punishing an offender was stated to be crushing to death by elephants or decapitation by the Kodagu sword. The secondary forms of punishment were dislocating the toes and fingers, suspending the offender by the ears, punching out his teeth, amputating his nose and lips or otherwise mutilating his person. These cruel punishments were abolished after the British took over. In the dispensation of criminal justice after 1834, the Gowda of a village was authorised to reprimand or admonish an offender for stealing vegetables or a few seers of grain. Other offenders were sent to the *Parpathigar*. The *Parpathigar* had powers to confine offenders for ten days. All other offenders deserving higher punishment were sent to the *Subedar* who had powers to confine the offenders for 30 days. The *Daryaft Cutcherry*, which was constituted as a court of punishment in the later part of the last century, had powers to sentence people for longer terms of imprisonment. With the promulgation of the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code which were introduced in Coorg in 1861 and 1862 respectively, the mode of punishment underwent a radical change. Offences and the nature of punishment to be awarded were clearly specified. In the later years, the Chief Commissioner of Coorg was the ex-officio Inspector-General of Police. The actual police force was in charge of a European Assistant Superintendent of Police borne on the Madras Government Cadre. On 2nd January 1922, the post of the Assistant Superintendent of Police was Indianised. In 1924, a Deputy Superintendent of Police was posted to look after the police department. The District Magistrate of Coorg was appointed *ex-officio* District Superintendent of Police. In 1934, the post of Deputy Superintendent of Police was upgraded to that of the District Superintendent of Police. Again in 1954, the post of a Deputy Superintendent of Police was created.

Organisation of the Police Force.

For purposes of efficient police administration, the whole of the new Mysore State has been divided into ranges, Coorg district coming under the Southern Range, administered by a Deputy Inspector-General of Police who has his headquarters in

Mysore City. In Coorg, as in other districts, there are the local police and the Armed Police called the District Armed Reserve Police. The Deputy Commissioner of the district has control over the district police as far as maintenance of law and order is concerned. But the Inspector-General of Police who is the head of the Police Department in the State, guides, controls and supervises the recruitment, education, housing and equipment of the police in the district. The primary functions of the police include the prevention and detection of crimes, maintenance of order, the apprehension of offenders, guarding of treasuries, private or public property and the prosecution of offenders. But they also perform many other duties including the control of traffic, service of summons in criminal cases and the like. The Superintendent of Police in the district is the head of the police force. He exercises general control and supervision over his subordinates. Immediately under the Superintendent of Police, there is a Sub-Divisional Officer or the Deputy Superintendent of Police. Next in the police hierarchy are the Circle Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables and Constables. The Coorg district has been divided into three police circles, each of which is under the charge of a Circle Inspector. The police circles are Mercara, Virajpet and Somwarpet. Below the Circle Inspectors, there are the Sub-Inspectors who are in charge of police stations.

Police Stations.

In Coorg, police stations are located in Mercara town, Mercara rural police station situated at Mercara town, Sanivarasanthe, Somwarpet, Kushalnagar Napoklu, Siddapur, Virajpet town and rural, Ponnampet and Srimangala. Attached to some of the police stations, there are police out-posts, which are manned by some constables and a Head Constable. Police out-posts are located in Murnad, Sampaje, Bhagamandala, Mundrote, Pollibetta, Makut, Gonikoppal, Tithimathi, Balele, Kutta, Madapur, Kodlipet and Suntikoppa.

District Armed Police.

Attached to the Coorg District Police, there is a District Armed Police consisting of one Reserve Sub-Inspector, two Assistant Reserve Sub-Inspectors, nine Head Constables and 50 Constables. This Armed Police is intended, as the very name indicates, to serve as a reserve force to be utilised to meet abnormal situations which the local police cannot tackle.

Strength of the District Police.

The strength of the district police as on 31st January 1963 was one Superintendent of Police, one Deputy Superintendent of Police, four Police Inspectors, 16 Sub-Inspectors, one Assistant Sub-Inspector, 64 Head Constables and 294 Police Constables.

Special Branch.

The Special Branch attached to the Coorg district police deals with confidential information concerning political parties, trade unions, communal organisations, agrarian associations and

the like. Prior to 1927, the post of Special Branch Police Inspector was attached to South Kanara district. At present, the Superintendent of Police in Coorg is dealing with this branch. Special Branch Inspectors are working in Mercara and Virajpet. These police officers are required to collect confidential information and pass it on to the Superintendent.

District Intelligence Bureau.

A Sub-Inspector of Police looks after the district intelligence work. It is the duty of this bureau to gather information in respect of crime and habitual offenders.

Traffic.

At present, there is no separate traffic squad in the district. The regular police force is entrusted with the task of controlling traffic in all major urban areas. The Superintendent of Police has sent up proposals to the Inspector-General for organising a traffic squad consisting of one Sub-Inspector and two Head Constables with headquarters at Mercara.

Fire Service.

There are no fire service stations functioning in the district. No report of any loss of property on account of fire accidents came to the notice of the police in 1961.

Village Vigilance Committees.

As there is no village police in Coorg, vigilance work in the rural areas is being conducted by 22 village vigilance committees. The district police makes use of the services of these vigilance committees for detection and prevention of crimes, including prohibition offences.

Welfare of the Police.

A fund known as "Mysore State Police Benevolent Fund" is in operation in the district. There is also a police officers' co-operative society functioning in the District Police office. The Superintendent of Police is the president of the society. Loans are given to members at a low rate of interest.

Medical Facilities.

No special medical facilities are provided for police officers and men. However, reimbursement of medical charges incurred in respect of police officers and men and their families is admissible as per the Mysore Medical Attendance Rules.

Housing.

The Superintendent of Police has his official residence. Eleven Sub-Inspectors of Police, 30 Head Constables and 140 Constables have been provided with housing accommodation. During the plan period more housing accommodation will be provided.

Sports.

Police meets are conducted once in a year where the imperative need of public and police co-operation is stressed. The meets are presided over by the Deputy Commissioner,

Police-Public Relationship.

The relationship between the police and the public as well as the police and the magistracy has been cordial and there was no occasion for any rift.

Incidence of Crime.

Offences are classified into five major categories, *viz.*, offences against the State, public tranquillity, safety and justice, against persons, against property alone, minor offences against person and minor offences against property. The following statement gives statistics of crimes under Class I to V during 1963 and the previous four years.

Offences	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Class I—Offences against the State, public tranquillity, safety and justice ..	15	18	25	14	7
Class II—Serious offences against persons ..	106	109	154	150	109
Class III—Serious offences against person or against property alone ..	135	104	118	123	92
Class IV—Minor offences against persons ..	50	41	42	38	34
Class V—Minor offences against property ..	233	173	196	201	149

From the above statement, it is clear that there was a decrease in all classes of offences in 1963 as compared with the previous years.

Grave Crimes.

The number of cases of grave crimes, *viz.*, murder, cattle theft, robbery, house-breaking and theft, and ordinary theft during 1963 and the previous four years are given below :—

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Murder ..	11	8	13	12	11
Robbery ..	2	..	1	1	1
House-breaking and theft	98	94	94	100	88
Cattle theft ..	8	6	17	7	9
Ordinary theft ..	161	107	133	112	94

There was a slight decrease so far as murder cases are concerned, no variation so far as robbery cases are concerned, and the number of house-breakings and thefts was fluctuating.

The following figures indicate the classification of murders according to motives for five years.

Motives		1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Sexual Causes	..	1	1	3	3	3
Gain	..	2	2	1	1	..
Family Quarrels	..	3	1	1	4	4
Other causes	..	5	4	8	4	4
Total	..	11	8	13	12	11

Infanticide

Only one case of infanticide was reported in 1961. There was no case of this kind in 1963.

Riots and Disturbances.

A total of 22 cases under rioting were registered during 1961 as against 16 in 1960. Of these, seven cases inclusive of a false case, were due to communal clashes between Malayalees and Coorgs in Srimangala limits. The tense situation was, however, brought under control by timely preventive action. No major cases of this kind occurred in 1963.

House-breaking and Theft.

There was a fall particularly under this head and the crime position was not alarming. Eighty-eight cases of house-breaking and theft were reported during 1963 as against 94 in 1960.

Cattle Thefts.

As regards cattle thefts, there was a decrease in the incidence. In 1961, 20 cases were reported as against nine in 1960 and eight in 1959. In 1963, the number of cattle thefts reported was only nine.

Ordinary Thefts.

There were 133 cases of ordinary thefts during 1961 as against 107 in 1960 and 161 in 1959. This was only 94 in 1963.

Counterfeiting.

In Mercara town police station, a case of counterfeiting of 100-rupee currency notes was registered during 1961. Since then no cases have been reported.

Rape.

There was only one case of rape reported during 1963. It was three in 1962 and one in 1961.

Unnatural deaths.

The break-up of figures under the category of accidental deaths is given below:—

		1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Accidental drowning	..	21	16	22	25	30
Suicidal drowning	..	9	15	15	19	6
Suicidal hanging	..	12	19	18	17	22

		1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Wild beast ravage	..	2	..	1	3	2
Burns	..	..	2	1	..	3
Fall from height	..	7	11	7	0	14
Crushed by weight	..	3	7	10	1	3
Gun shot accidents	..	9	9	7	6	7
Poisoning	..	12	15	7	9	4
Other causes	..	22	26	36	20	16

Post-mortem Examinations.

During 1961, a total of 127 post-mortem examinations were done including 13 cases of murders, seven cases of fatal accidents, one case of gun-shot wound, as against 130 cases in 1960. During 1963, 110 cases went up to post-mortem including 11 murders and 9 cases under Section 304 I.P.C.

Dacoity.

The district is practically free from dacoity cases since 1959.

Offences under special laws.

In respect of offences under special and local laws, there have been variations from year to year. The following table indicates the incidence.

		1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Arms Act	..	3	1	9	5	6
Gambling Act	..	45	52	41	50	41
Indian Police Act	..	157	119	108	110	111
Caste Disability Act	..	1	..	2	1	..
Motor Vehicles Act	..	2,402	1,927	2,401	2,285	1,948

A new Mysore Police Act as passed by the Mysore Legislature in 1962 has been made applicable to the district.

Immoral Offences.

As the district is free from brothel houses and houses of ill-fame, there was practically no occasion for the enforcement of the Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act of 1956, except the detection of one case in 1962.

Enforcement of Prohibition.

Total prohibition was introduced in Coorg in 1956. In 1963, 1,635 prohibition cases were put up. The enforcement of prohibition laws has been made very strict.

Violation of Traffic Rules.

The enforcement of traffic rules is the duty of the district police. A total of 2,491 cases of violation was reported in 1961, as against 1,927 in 1960, and 2,402 in 1959. The offences in this category include over-speeding, use of dazzling head lights, use of defective lights, violation of route permits, overloading and non-payment of vehicle tax.

Motor Accidents.

In all, there were 54 motor accidents during 1961, as against 72 in 1960, and 60 in 1959; 61 persons were injured due to motor accidents in 1961, as against 96 in 1960 and 84 in 1959. The number of persons actually killed due to motor accidents on the roads during 1961 was six as against fifteen in 1960 and seven in 1959. During 1963, 45 persons were injured in motor accidents. The number of persons who actually succumbed to accidents was seven.

Detection and Prevention of Crime.

The following table shows the percentage of detection of cognizable crimes.

1959	..	58 per cent
1960	..	49 per cent
1961	..	35 per cent
1962	..	39 per cent
1963	..	45 per cent

Property lost and recovered.

The value of property lost and recovered during 1963 is given below.

Lost	..	Rs. 83,910
Recovered	..	Rs. 34,117

Sessions cases.

During 1963, 14 cases were committed to sessions and 15 cases were pending from 1962 in the court. Of this, 15 cases were disposed of, eight cases ending in conviction and seven in acquittal.

Habitual Offenders.

There were 79 history sheets for known depredators in the district at the beginning of 1961. This number increased to 85 at the end of the year. There were in all six rowdy sheets maintained in 1961., In 1963, there were 39 history sheets and 62 rowdy sheets.

Law and Order.

The district was free from any major disturbance. Strikes and lock-outs of a serious nature were unknown. There was no occasion to promulgate Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The police had no occasion to open fire on mobs, nor were there any lathi charges. The labour situation remained on the whole peaceful. The law and order situation has been quite satisfactory except for some incidents *i.e.* at Napoklu and Gonikoppal.

Cost of the Police.

The total cost of the district police in 1963 was Rs. 9,11,[illegible] as against Rs. 4,89,330 in 1960. The increase in the cost is attributed to the revision of pay scales in 1961 and to the purchase of vehicles for the armed reserve.

2. Jails and Lock-ups.

There is nothing on record to show where the central prison was located in Coorg during the Rajas' time. It was probably located inside the fort. After the British occupation also, the only jail that served as lodging house for convicted prisoners was at the Mercara Fort. In 1868, the medical men who were administering the jail and the engineers who maintained the building, wanted a separate site for a new prison house. But they differed in opinion on certain points regarding the site of the new jail. The Deputy Inspector-General of the Government of India Medical Department was requested to visit Mercara and report on the subject. Dr. Orr who was deputed for the purpose visited Mercara and after making certain enquiries intimated his preference for the site selected by the Superintendent and the Civil Surgeon to that chosen by the Chief Engineer. The Chief Commissioner of Coorg also favoured the new site. It was found that the jail located inside the fort was defective in many respects. The space was limited and only 94 prisoners could be lodged. On the orders of Government, dated 26th August 1868, a few convicted prisoners were for some time placed in temporary buildings on the site selected for the new jail at Mercara in order to test the healthiness of the spot. The experiment revealed that the new site was decidedly unhealthy. The prisoners placed there were suffering much more from illness than those in the old jail. Again, a new site was chosen. But on financial grounds the proposed building was indefinitely postponed. Meanwhile, the old jail at the fort was improved and enlarged sufficiently to allow of modern requirements in respect of sanitation. The bulk of the jail population was confined in the Mercara District Jail, the taluk lock-ups being reserved for under-trial prisoners and others sentenced to short terms of imprisonment. In 1904, for the first time, women convicts were accommodated separately in the Mercara Jail. The daily average strength of prisoners in the Mercara Jail in the beginning of the present century was 68. In 1924, the Madras Jail Manual was adopted for the administration of Coorg jails. At that time, besides the Central Jail at Mercara, there were four sub-jails located in various parts of Coorg. In later years, upto the time the State was merged with the new Mysore State, Coorg had one central jail at Mercara and one sub-jail at Virajpet, and 19 lock-ups in the various police stations. Prisoners of Coorg domicile sentenced for 10 years or less were retained in the Mercara jail and others were sent to Cannanore. The women convicts were sent to Vellore in North Arcot District. In 1954-55, the accommodation available in Mercara jail was 129 prisoners of all classes. The daily average was 59. The State Medical Officer of Coorg was the *ex-officio* Superintendent of the Mercara Jail and the Subedar of Virajpet taluk was the *ex-officio*

Superintendent of the sub-jail at Virajpet. The Chief Commissioner of Coorg was the *ex-officio* Inspector-General of Prisons. The sub-jail at Virapet was closed from 1st April 1956.

After Coorg became a district in the new Mysore State, the Mercara Jail was retained and the District Surgeon was appointed *ex-officio* Superintendent of the Jail. The capacity of the jail at present is 129. The average number of prisoners of all classes confined in the jail during 1963 was 75.31 as against 96.32 in 1962. The jail has special accommodation for women, and there is a woman warder. The jail is looked after by a jailor assisted by warders. There are six separate cells where prisoners are lodged. Prisoners are given a breakfast in the morning consisting of rice cakes and coffee, a midday meal and a meal in the night. Each male prisoner is given two blankets, two *jubbas*, two knickers and plates and vessels for eating purposes. A radio has been provided for the recreation of prisoners. There is a separate barracks for prohibition offenders. A Visitors' Board consisting of officials and non-officials looks after the welfare of prisoners. Only short-term prisoners and under-trial prisoners are lodged in the Mercara jail. Those who are awarded long terms are transferred to Mysore and Bangalore jails. The total cost of the maintenance of the Mercara Jail in 1963 was Rs. 43,248 and the total cost per prisoner per annum came to Rs. 574.

3. Administration of Justice.

Early History.

The judicial pattern at the time of the Rajas was one of distributive justice which ran evenly except when interrupted by the caprices of the king. There were no written laws. The customary laws had all the force of authority. The king who sat on the throne administered justice in person. The subordinate officers had powers of judicial decision to a certain extent. Disputes of a serious nature and questions involving property to any amount were determined only by the Raja to whom, in all cases, there lay an appeal. On the assumption of the Government of Coorg by the British, the existing judicial organisation of the country was not interfered with. The Patels were empowered to hear, try and determine on their own responsibility upon oral evidence such suits as were referred to them. If the parties were dissatisfied with the decision of the patels, they could appeal to the *Parpathigars*. The *Parpathigars* were hearing appeals against the decision of the Patels. On their own responsibility they were deciding causes not exceeding Rs. 50 on the strength of written evidence. All causes in excess of Rs. 50 and not exceeding Rs. 100 were decided by a specially convened panchayat. Appeals against the decision of the *Parpathigars* were filed in the *Subedar Cutcherry*. The *Subedars* were settling causes up to Rs. 100 on their own responsibility. But in cases where the sum in litigation exceeded Rs. 100, they constituted special panchayats to settle

them. In trying and determining suits, the *Subedars* were assisted by the *Sheristedars* and the *Gumasthas* in actually writing the proceedings of the enquiry. Above these judicial tribunals, there existed a higher court called the *Daryaft Cutcherry* consisting of three men. The *Daryaft Cutcherry* heard all appeals against the decisions of the *Subedars*. It had original powers to determine causes from Rs. 200 to Rs. 1,000 upon recorded evidence. All causes above Rs. 1,000 and not exceeding Rs. 3,000 were determined and settled by a panchayat convened by the *Daryaft Cutcherry* as distinct from the other panchayat convened to try small cause suits. On the criminal side, the *Gauda* of a village was authorised to reprimand or admonish an offender for petty offences. He had powers to apprehend the culprit and handing him over to the *Parpathigars*. The *Parpathigars* had powers to detain any culprit up to 10 days. The *Subedar* had powers of granting bail.

Later Changes.

In 1868-69, the introduction of the Coorg Courts Act (Act XXV of 1861) and the consequent abolition of the *Daryaft Cutcherry* was an important landmark in the judicial history of Coorg The Chief Commissioner at that time did not regard with any sentimental regret the abolition of this old court, although it had performed its work fairly satisfactorily. After the promulgation of the Coorg Courts Act, only two *Subedars* out of six had first class jurisdiction on the civil side. On the criminal side, all appeals against the decisions of the Magistrates were preferred to the Judicial Commissioner. The *Parpathigars* or *Naib Subedars* were invested with powers to try suits for money or moveable property not exceeding Rs. 50. Appeals went from *Subedars* to Assistant Superintendents, and from Assistant Superintendents to Superintendents and finally to the Judicial Commissioner.

This judicial pattern underwent changes to suit the requirements of the situation. Coorg, so long as it continued as an independent entity, had no High Court of its own. Originally, the Chief Judge of the old Chief Court of Mysore exercised the powers of the Judicial Commissioner of Coorg. In 1884, the Government of India ordered that the judicial work arising in Coorg and in the Civil and Military Station, Bangalore, should be performed by the Chief Commissioner of Coorg who was also the British Resident of Mysore. Accordingly, he exercised the powers of the High Court. Revision petitions arising out of the orders of the Judicial Commissioner were transferred to the Madras High Court. This arrangement continued up to 1936. On a representation made by the Coorg Bar Association, the Government of India issued orders appointing the District and Sessions Judge of Chittoor district, in Madras State (now in Andhra Pradesh) as Additional Judicial Commissioner of Coorg in addition to his own duties. Under this arrangement, the District and Sessions Judge, Chittoor, visited Bangalore once a month as Additional Judge of the Court of the Resident and exercised the powers

of the High Court, sitting as a single judge. The Chief Commissioner of Coorg sat with him only in referred trials and in appeals against death sentences. This arrangement continued till the retrocession of the Civil and Military Station in 1947. Thereafter, the Madras High Court functioned as the High Court of Coorg. According to the orders conveyed by the Government of India, the Coorg Legislature passed an Act in 1948 (Act II of 1948) extending the territorial jurisdiction of the Madras High Court to Coorg. After the popular ministry took charge in March 1952, the Coorg Government considered the desirability of bringing the State under the Mysore High Court on grounds of language. Eventually, with the concurrence of the Mysore Government, the Coorg Act, No. I of 1953 was enacted. Coorg in judicial matters came under the High Court of Mysore. Up to the end of June 1940, the Commissioner of Coorg was the District Judge. After this, a regular post of District Judge was created. Under the Coorg Courts Act of 1948, the District Court had jurisdiction to hear and determine any suit on original proceedings without restriction as to the value. It was the principal civil court of original jurisdiction for the State. The Munsiffs' Courts at Mercara and Virajpet had jurisdiction to hear and determine any suit of original proceedings, the value of which did not exceed Rs. 2,500. Up to the end of June 1954, the two Munsiffs' Courts were entrusted with the disposal of all cases arising within their respective areas. This work was found heavy. To give some relief to the Mercara Munsiff-Magistrate, the Sheristedar of the District Court was appointed as a special Magistrate with second class powers. A post of Special Magistrate with first class powers with jurisdiction over the whole State was created with effect from 1st July 1955. The Munsiffs and the First Class Magistrates continued their criminal work trying only cases coming under the Indian Penal Code. The Virajpet First Class Magistrate exercised first class powers.

Benches of Special Magistrates in Coorg were first constituted in 1920 under Section 15 of the Criminal Procedure Code in Mercara, Somwarpet, Virajpet and Ponnampet. They are not functioning at present.

Civil Justice.

The District Judge, Coorg, is the highest judicial authority in the district and he presides over the District Court which is the principal court of original jurisdiction in the district. The State Government, in consultation with the High Court, makes the appointment of the District Judge. Subordinate to the District Judge are the Civil Judge's Court and the Munsiffs' Courts. The jurisdiction of the District Court and the Civil Judge's Court extends to all original suits and proceedings of a civil nature. The jurisdiction of the Munsiffs' Courts extends to all original suits and proceedings of a civil nature, of which the amount or value of the subject matter does not exceed Rs. 10,000. According to the

provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, the original suits and proceedings, the value of which does not exceed Rs. 10,000, have to be instituted in the Munsiffs' Courts. All other original suits and proceedings have to be instituted in the Civil Judge's Court.

Appeals from the decrees and orders passed by the District Court, when such appeals are allowed by law, lie to the High Court. Appeals from the decrees and orders passed by the Civil Judge, when such appeals are allowed by law, lie (1) to the District Court when the value is less than Rs. 20,000 and (2) to the High Court in other cases. Appeals from the decrees and orders passed by the Munsiffs lie to the Court of the Civil Judge. There is no Additional District Judge's Court in Coorg. In the years 1957 and 1958, 38 and 37 original suits, respectively, were filed in the District Court. Out of these, 11 and 16 respectively, were money suits and the rest were property suits. All these suits have been disposed of. Under the orders of the High Court of Mysore, original suits are required to be disposed of within one year from the date of institution and civil appeals and other miscellaneous matters are required to be disposed of within six months from the date of institution. There are no long-pending cases in the District Court.

The Munsiffs at Mercara and Virajpet are also Magistrates having first class powers. They function as Munsiff-Magistrates in their respective jurisdiction. During 1960, the Munsiff's Court at Virajpet disposed of 189 original suits and 430 small cause suits, the money value of these suits being Rs. 1,26,164 and Rs. 35,501, respectively. The Mercara Munsiff's Court in 1960 disposed of 238 original suits and 392 small cause suits, the money value being Rs. 1,88,705-06 and Rs. 15,430, respectively.

The scheme of the separation of judiciary from the executive was introduced in Coorg from 1st December 1959, and a Judicial District Magistrate was appointed with effect from that date. After the introduction of this scheme, there are two categories of Magistrates in the district *viz.*, executive and judicial. The Judicial Magistrates are the District Magistrate and the Magistrates who are stationed in Mercara and Virajpet. The Executive Magistrates are the executive officers of the Revenue Department in whom is vested the responsibility for the maintenance of law and order. The Deputy Commissioner is also an Additional District Magistrate.

Under the Criminal Procedure Code, the functions of a Magistrate are many and they are enumerated in the several clauses. For instance, the Magistrates have to handle unlawful assemblies, issue licences for fire arms, and try criminal cases. The allocation

of powers between the judicial and executive Magistrates proceeds upon the principle that matters which are purely police or administrative in their nature are dealt with by the Executive Magistrates, while those which are judicial in nature are within the purview of the Judicial Magistrates. As officers of the Revenue Department, the Executive Magistrates are under the control of the Government, while the Judicial Magistrates are under the control of the High Court.

The District Magistrate is the principal magisterial officer of the district and as such, he has general administrative superintendence and control over all Judicial Magistrates.

Organisation of Criminal Courts.

The Sessions Court is the principal court of original criminal jurisdiction in the district and it is presided over by the Sessions Judge who is also the District Judge. The Sessions Judge tries criminal cases which are committed to his court by the Judicial Magistrates after preliminary enquiry. The Sessions Judge can pass sentences authorised by law, but any sentence of death passed by him is subject to confirmation by the High Court. There is no Additional Sessions Judge's Court or Assistant Sessions Judge's Court in Coorg. During 1961, 21 cases were committed to sessions and two cases were pending disposal from previous year. Of these, 14 cases were disposed of, 11 ending in conviction, and three in acquittal. Nine cases were pending at the close of 1961.

There were two Magistrates' Courts, one in Mercara and the other at Virajpet in 1961. During 1961, in these two Magistrates' Courts, 478 cases were launched and out of these, 166 ended in conviction. One more Criminal Court of the status of a First Class Magistrate has been established in Virajpet.

Location of Courts.

Some three decades ago, the law courts in Mercara were situated in a small building in the town. Later, the courts were shifted to a portion of the District Office which was once the palace of the Coorg Rajas.

Legal Practitioners.

There were about 50 legal practitioners in the district in 1961. Bar Associations are functioning both in Mercara and Virajpet. Each Bar Association has a president and a secretary.

CHAPTER XIII.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

IN the previous chapters, the work of some of the important administrative departments has been dealt with. The organisational set-up of various other departments like Public Works, Agriculture, Industries, Food Supplies, Co-operation, Sericulture, Prohibition and Forest has been described in this chapter. The activities of these departments have been noticed in the earlier chapters and hence, only their administrative set-up has been dealt with here.

Public Works Department.

Prior to 1947, Coorg had a Public Works Department of its own. On account of continued budget deficits and in pursuance of Mr. Wattal's proposals, in 1938, for economy in expenditure and as a war-time measure, the public works activities in Coorg were curtailed to a great extent under the orders of the Government of India. The department which had a full-fledged Division was reduced to a Sub-Division consisting of one Executive Engineer, one Sub-Divisional Officer and six qualified overseers. Except the maintenance of a few of the important roads and buildings, no original work was taken up. The work of the department was considerably reduced. The Coorg Government sought monetary and technical assistance from the Government of India. In September 1946, the Superintending Engineer, Bombay Circle, inspected the roads and the working of the department in Coorg and, in consultation with the then Chief Commissioner of Coorg, recommended to the Government of India, that the Central Public Works Department should take over the Public Works Department in Coorg and charge to the Coorg State a centage of 17½ per cent on all works executed by the Central Public Works Department in lieu of establishment charges which were to be wholly debited to the Centre. The Government of India approved these proposals and the Central Public Works Department assumed charge of the department in July 1947. Under this arrangement, the State Government was obliged to accord administrative approval and expenditure sanction for the works decided to be taken up by the Central Government. Preparation of plans, estimates, accord of technical sanction and execution of works were all vested in the Central Public Works

Department. After the popular Ministry took over charge in 1952, the works entrusted to the Central Public Works Department increased considerably and the department found it difficult to cope with the work. The position became worse when the First Five-Year Plan and the Community Project schemes were sanctioned. To get over this difficulty, the State Government was forced to create a Minor Irrigation Department of a minor nature and for the construction of school buildings in rural areas. This new department was placed in charge of an Irrigation Engineer whose services were borrowed from the old Mysore State. This department worked directly under the control of the State Government. Later on, as the works increased under the various development schemes, this department was expanded and works connected with the construction of small buildings, internal communication bridges, rural water supply works and supervision of building works were entrusted to the Minor Irrigation Department. A retired Superintending Engineer of the Mysore State was appointed as the head of the department. As a measure of economy, the post of the Superintending Engineer was abolished with effect from October 1955. The post of the Irrigation Officer was upgraded and designated as the Executive Engineer.

At present, there is one Public Works Division with headquarters at Mercara in charge of all roads, buildings, bridges and irrigation works. The Executive Engineer, Coorg, is the officer in charge of the administration of the Public Works Department in Coorg. He is an executive officer who is responsible for the execution of public works in his jurisdiction. The main functions of the Executive Engineer are the construction and maintenance of all Government buildings, roads, bridges, irrigation works and public health works within the jurisdiction of his division. He also executes major works of local bodies with the approval of Government. He is empowered to sanction all estimates of budgeted works upto Rs. 50,000 and entrust them for execution. He is the technical adviser at the divisional level in all matters affecting the Public Works Department. He also scrutinises the estimates taken up by other departments in the district. The Executive Engineer has been invested with a wide range of powers under the Public Works Code with a view to enabling him to carry out efficiently and expeditiously the various civil works entrusted to his care. His various powers and functions have been no doubt specified, but they do not preclude variations according to the developmental needs of the district. The Executive Engineer is a touring officer who has to go round his area often for purposes of detailed inspection of roads, bridges, buildings, canals, irrigation works and the like. He is an *ex-officio* professional adviser to the municipalities and other local bodies. His powers with reference to repairs and special repairs of various works have been enumerated, the limit in each case being specified. The Executive Engineer is empowered to call

for tenders in connection with the execution of public works. He has powers to accept tenders upto rupees one lakh provided the excess of the tender amount re-cast to current schedule rate is not more than 8 per cent. This is, however, subject to the over-all condition that in all cases, only the lower or the lowest of more than one tender should be accepted.

The Executive Engineer is assisted by a number of Assistant Engineers, Junior Engineers, Supervisors and other ministerial staff. There is an Assistant Engineer in each taluk headquarters in charge of a sub-division to assist the Executive Engineer in the execution of public works.

There are seven Assistant Engineers, one of whom works as a Personal Assistant to the Executive Engineer in his office, thirteen Junior Engineers and thirty-one supervisors in the division. There are two Superintendents in the Office of the Executive Engineer at Mercara. One of them heads the administrative section and is responsible for routine office correspondence and establishment matters. The Superintendent for Accounts is the head of the Accounts Section. He is responsible for the accuracy of the monthly accounts that are being sent to the Accountant General, Bangalore. He is also the head of the arrears clearance section of the office. The Personal Assistant to the Executive Engineer assists the Executive Engineer in regard to the scrutiny of estimates, calling of tenders and such other duties as are entrusted to him by the Executive Engineer.

The Assistant Engineers are empowered to execute all public works in their jurisdictions They can make payment of intermediate bills up to Rs. 1,000. They have to check-measure all the works and they are responsible for satisfactory execution of the works in their jurisdiction. They are the Taluk Irrigation Officers and are members of the Block Development Advisory Committees in their respective jurisdictions. The Junior Engineers and the Supervisors assist the Assistant Engineers in their work.

Agricultural Department.

The District Agricultural Officer, Coorg District, looks after the agricultural extension work in the district. There are Agricultural Extension Officers working in the extension blocks. All the three taluks of this district are covered by the Community Development Scheme. Each Community Development block has been placed under the charge of one Agricultural Extension Officer. This officer functions under the administrative control of the Block Development Officer in each block. In technical matters, the Extension Officers are under the control of the District Agricultural Officer. They are assisted by the village level workers in each block.

The seed farm located at Kudige is managed by the District Agricultural Officer directly. The staff provided for the seed farm consists of one manager, and one fieldman. The District Agricultural Officer is assisted at the head office by one Assistant Agricultural Officer and one Plant Protection Assistant. The Assistant Agricultural Officer assists the District Agricultural Officer in all technical matters, and the Plant Protection Assistant looks after the plant protection work in the entire district. He assists the gram sevaks in technical matters through the agricultural extension officers in matters connected with the control of pests and diseases of plants and in arranging to get the required chemicals and insecticides. There are two Assistant Food Production Officers in the district, one for South Coorg and the other for North Coorg, with their headquarters at Virajpet and Mercara respectively. They are each assisted by one agricultural inspector and a field-worker. They are in charge of land reclamation work. Every year, about one thousand acres are being reclaimed by manual labour thus contributing to the increase of food production.

To demonstrate to the people the scientific methods of cultivation, the Agricultural Department has opened agricultural experimental farms at Kudige, Mercara and Ponnampet. In the Kudige Farm, extending over an area of 476 acres, there are also the Government Dairy Farm, a sericultural section, a poultry section, a smithy section, a gram sevaks' training centre and a basic training college. A Government Central Apiary has been esatblished at Bhagamandala under the charge of an Apicultural Development Officer. Training classes for the bee-keepers and bee-men are conducted at the Apiary. There is a fodder research section at Kudige in charge of a Fodder Research Officer. This scheme has been sponsored by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Forest Department.

The administration of the Forest Department is being looked after by two Divisional Forest Officers, one stationed at Mercara and the other at Hunsur. The Divisional Forest Officer, North Coorg Division, is in charge of all taluks in Coorg except the Ponnampet Nad and Srimangala Nad in Virajpet Taluk. The Divisional Forest Officer, South Coorg, stationed at Hunsur, in Mysore District, looks after the forest administration in Ponnampet Nad and Srimangala Nad in Virajpet Taluk, part of Napoklu Nad on the south bank of the Cauvery river, Hunsur Taluk, Periyapatna Taluk, and Krishnarajanagar Taluk of Mysore District. Both these divisional officers are directly responsible to the Conservator of Forests, Coorg Circle, Mercara, and through him to the Chief Conservator of Forests in Mysore. For purposes of efficient management, the two forest divisions have been divided into ranges, each range being in charge of a Range Forest Officer. There are five ranges in the North Coorg Forest Division They

are Kushalnagar, Somwarpet, Bhagamandala, Sampaje and Makut. There is one Assistant Conservator of Forests and eleven Range Forest Officers in the South Coorg Forest Division. The Coorg Timber Depot at Hunsur is managed by a Range Forest Officer.

The main functions of the two divisions are afforestation and maintenance of plantations and village forests with a view to supplying timber, firewood, minor forest produce and other requirements besides protecting whatever natural vegetation that exists in the area.

A saw mill is working at Murkal under the Forest Department as a major industrial enterprise. This is under the charge of a Range Forest Officer.

Commercial Taxes Department.

There is an Assistant Commercial Tax Officer in the district to attend to the work of assessment under the various statutes. The staff associated with the office of the Assistant Commercial Tax Officer consists of one Commercial Tax Inspector and some ministerial staff.

The Assistant Commercial Tax Officer, Coorg, is an independent registering and assessing authority. He is directly subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Mysore Division, and through him, he is responsible to the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes in Mysore. The Assistant Commercial Tax Officer is designated and appointed as an Entertainments Tax Officer under the Mysore Entertainments Tax Act, 1958. The Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Mysore Division, is the sole administering authority for the entire division and also the appellate and revision authority under all Acts except the Mysore Sugarcane Cess Act, 1958.

Agricultural Income-Tax Department.

The Agricultural Income-Tax Officer, Coorg, Mercara, is the officer in charge of the administration of the department in the district. He is primarily responsible to the Commissioner for Commercial Taxes in Mysore, who is also the *ex-officio* Commissioner of Agricultural Income-Taxes in the State. The Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Mysore Division, Mysore, is his immediate superior and the first appellate authority as well.

The powers and functions of the Agricultural Income-Tax Officer are specified in the Mysore Agricultural Income-Tax Act, 1957, and the Rules framed thereunder. They can be broadly classified as assessment work and organisational work. The staff associated with the Agricultural Income-Tax Officer, Coorg, consists of one Assistant Agricultural Income-Tax Officer, two inspectors of agricultural income-tax and some ministerial staff.

The Agricultural Income-Tax Officer and the Assistant Agricultural Income-Tax Officer have powers to assess and collect the Agricultural Income-Tax in the district. The Agricultural Income-Tax Officer is assisted by the Assistant Agricultural Income-Tax Officer and two inspectors who tour the district, inspect estates, make confidential enquiries, collect data required for assessment, and carry out orders of the Agricultural Income-Tax Officer in the matter of assessment and collection of demands made. They are expected to tour for fifteen days or more in a month and remain in the head-quarters on other days to compile and consolidate the particulars collected and assist the Agricultural Income-Tax Officer in the preliminary examination of accounts of certain cases marked out to them. The Assistant Agricultural Income-Tax Officer has powers to assess the cases of persons whose agricultural income is less than Rs. 7,000 and in this regard, he is empowered to exercise all the powers and functions of the Agricultural Income-Tax Officer under the Mysore Agricultural Income-Tax Act, 1957.

Mysore State Electricity Board.

An Assistant Engineer was in charge of the distribution of power and maintenance of electrical undertakings in the sub-division. He was directly responsible to the Executive Engineer, Mangalore Division.* There are ten officials (executive) employed in the regular establishment and forty-nine persons employed in the maintenance establishment. There are two Junior Engineers and eight supervisors working under the Assistant Engineer, Mercara. Sub-offices located at Kushalnagar, Virajpet, Gonikoppal and Somwarpet are under the jurisdiction of the Mercara Sub-Divisional Office. There is also an Assistant Engineer in charge of the construction sub-division with his headquarters at Mercara. He looks after construction works in the district.

Social Welfare Department.

The District Social Welfare Officer is the officer who is responsible for the implementation of the several schemes sanctioned for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes in the district. He works under the direct supervision and control of the District Development Assistant and the Deputy Commissioner, Coorg. In giving effect to the various social welfare schemes, the District Social Welfare Officer is assisted by three social welfare inspectors at taluk headquarters, and a tribal welfare inspector, besides one overseer. two bee-men, three maternity health assistants and nine hostel superintendents, six Ashram school teachers and eleven women welfare organisers with their staff to manage the institutions, one craft instructress and one craft teacher to give training in tailoring for women, rattan and bamboo crafts to tribal people.

Maternity and Health Assistants.—To look after the health and sanitation of the tribal people, maternity health assistants

*With effect from 1st May 1965 a separate Division has been formed in Coorg District and an Executive Engineer is in charge of it.

have been posted. There are three such assistants working in the Department of Social Welfare and posted in the following centres :—

(a) Basavanahalli Tribal Colony in Somwarpet Taluk,

(b) Adinadur Tribal Colony in Somwarpet Taluk, and

(c) Siddapur-Hadlu Tribal Colony in Virajpet Taluk.

These maternity health assistants contact tribal women and children, give them guidance in matters of cleanliness, sanitation, and family planning. They attend to maternity and child welfare activities also.

Ashram Schools.—There are six Ashram schools started for the benefit of the boys and girls of the Scheduled Tribes at Basavanahalli, Adinadur, Begur, Nagarhole, Gonigadde and Chennangi—Basavanahalli tribal colonies. One teacher, one cook and one dalayat are attached to each of these schools.

Hostels.—There are two hostels for girls belonging to the Scheduled Castes at Mercara and Ponnampet and hostels for boys of the Scheduled Castes at Mercara, Kushalnagar, Somwarpet, Virajpet, Ponnampet, Kallahalla and Kutta. A staff consisting of one superintendent, one cook and a kitchen attendant is attached to these hostels.

Women's Welfare Centres.—There are eleven women's welfare centres at Kushalnagar, Hebbale, Chennankote, Bilugunda, Balele, Basavanahalli, Adinadur, Siddapur-Hadlu, Reshme-Hadlu, Kurchi and Kanthur. One organiser and one conductress are attached to each one of the centres.

District Employment Exchange.

The District Employment Officer is the officer in charge of the administration of the Employment Exchange, Coorg. He is directly responsible to the Director, National Employment Service in Mysore, in all matters, financial and administrative. The staff of the District Employment Exchange consists of one District Employment Officer, one Junior Statistical Officer, one first division clerk, one typist, two lower division clerks and two class IV officials.

The Junior Statistical Officer and one second division clerk working in the Exchange are appointed for purposes of collection of employment market information under the Five-Year Plan Schemes.

The main duties of the exchange are to render assistance in securing jobs to the unemployed, guide them in choosing a proper career and also help the employer to choose the right man for the right job.

Food Supplies Department.

The Food Supplies Department is a purely temporary department which came into being after the outbreak of the Second World War. It is being continued from time to time with varying functions depending on the nature and extent of food controls in force in the State.

The Deputy Commissioner of the District is in charge of the work of food supplies in the district. He is the licensing authority in respect of the following orders which are in force at present :

(1) The Mysore Foodgrains Wholesale Dealers Licensing Order, 1964.

(2) The Mysore Foodgrains Retail Dealers Licensing Rules, 1964.

(3) The Rice Milling Industry (Regulation) Act, 1958

(4) The Mysore Sugar Dealers Licensing Order, 1959.

His functions comprise, among others, keeping in touch with the supply position and price trends of essential foodgrains in the district, authorising the opening of fair price depots wherever necessary and equitably distributing the supplies of rice and wheat allotted to the district. He has to furnish to the Director of Food Supplies and the Government, the various periodical statistical returns prescribed in this behalf, meet the audit objections, if any, and take such measures as may be necessary from time to time in consonance with the policy of the Government in food matters, and to ensure implementation of the Acts and Rules in force to regulate the supplies of essential foodgrains in the district. The Deputy Commissioner is assisted by a Special Tahsildar in all matters relating to food supplies in the district.

The Tahsildars of the taluks are in charge of administration of food supplies work in their respective jurisdictions.

Horticultural Department.

For the purpose of horticultural development in the district, the Cardamom Development Officer for Mysore State with his headquarters at Mercara has been placed in charge of the district under the new set-up of the Horticultural Department. The staff associated in the development work consists of one District Horticultural Inspector at Mercara to look after the affairs of the Mysore Horticultural Society, Coorg Branch, floricultural gardens, pepper and areca nurseries at Mercara, four Assistants under Cardamom Development Scheme to look after cardamom nurseries at Appangala, Somwarpet and Ponnampet, pepper nursery at Somwarpet, orange and pepper nurseries and vegetable garden at Ponnampet, banana and pineapple multiplication garden

at Napoklu, one Assistant at Kudige to look after the orange, areca and coconut nurseries and vegetable garden at Kudige, one Assistant at Ponnampet to look after the areca nursery and development work, one Horticultural Assistant for intensive production of vegetables and quick growing fruits at Gonikoppal and one Additional Horticultural Extension Officer at Kudige for the Applied Nutrition Programme—each being assisted by one or more field assistants or fieldmen for extension work, laying out demonstration plots, inspection of gardens and maintenance of nurseries in the district.

Besides the above, there is a Horticulturist in charge of the co-ordinated scheme for citrus die-back disease at Gonikoppal with a chemical laboratory and pathological section and staff attached thereto. He is in charge of a fruit research station at Attur near Gonikoppal and the regional fruit research station at Chettalli, assisted further by the Assistant Horticulturist and allied staff. The ICAR-sponsored regional research station on cardamom at Appangala with an assistant is also under his charge.

The office of the Assistant Fruit Development Officer for Mysore Division is located at Gonikoppal. Affairs relating to disposal of horticultural loans for fruit gardens and other fruit development work in the district are being attended to by him.

Labour Department.

One Labour Officer is in charge of the district for the enforcement of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Plantations Labour Act, 1951, the Weekly Holidays Act, 1942, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933, the Employment of Children Act, 1938, the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942, the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, the Factories Act, 1948 and the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1956.

The Labour Officer is assisted in his duties by two Labour Inspectors, one first division clerk, one second division clerk, one second grade typist, and three dalayats. The Assistant Labour Commissioner, Mysore Division, exercises supervision over the office of the Labour Officer, Coorg.

The Inspector of Factories, Mysore Division, also attends to the enforcement of the Factories Act, 1948, and the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 and the Rules framed thereunder with reference to these factories. He also attends to the work of scrutiny of plans of new factories and extensions to the existing factories, if any. The staff associated with the office of the Inspector of Factories consists of one first division clerk, one second division clerk and two class IV officials.

Department of Publicity and Information.

There is no District Publicity Office in Coorg. At present, one Radio Supervisor and a Battery Attendant are stationed at Mercara. The Radio Supervisor works under the control of the Director of Publicity and Information in Mysore. He is responsible for the maintenance of the community receiving sets in several villages in the district and for the major part of the month, he is on tour since he has to attend to complaints with reference to the rural broadcasting sets and installation of new ones as well.

Co-operative Department.

The Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Mercara, is the officer in charge of the administration of the department in the district. The Government may by general or special orders confer on the Assistant Registrar all or any of the powers of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies under the Mysore Co-operative Societies Act. This officer exercises his powers conferred on him subject to the general superintendence and control of the Registrar. Some of the important functions of the Assistant Registrar are registration of co-operative societies, amendment of bye-laws of co-operative societies, calling of special or general meetings under certain circumstances, arranging for the audit inquiry and inspection of co-operative societies, and apportioning of costs thereof, disposal of disputes of co-operative societies referred to him and the execution of Government orders. The Assistant Registrar has to devote his special attention to the promotion and healthy growth of co-operative societies and ensure their smooth working. He is assisted by a number of field workers as well as office staff.

The Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies in Coorg District is assisted by three first division clerks, six second division clerks, one second grade typist, two lady organisers, four sales officers, twenty inspectors of co-operative societies, one driver, four amins, twelve process servers, and thirteen class IV officials.

Two district auditors are appointed under the Mysore Civil Service Regulations, one to audit the accounts of the Coorg District Central Co-operative Bank, Ltd., Mercara, and the other to audit the accounts of the Coorg Coffee Growers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., and the Coorg District Cardamom Co-operative Marketing Society, Ltd., Mercara.

Consequent on the bifurcation of audit from administration, the audit staff comprising seven senior auditors of co-operative societies and eight junior auditors of co-operative societies are now working under the control of the District Auditor of Co-operative societies.

Of the twenty inspectors of co-operative societies, one inspector is associated with the work connected with land mortgage affairs, one with marketing, one with the general work connected with the Five-Year Plan schemes, one with arbitration work, one

with land valuation work and one with the work connected with consumers' stores. The other fourteen inspectors attend to work connected with attachment and sale of movable and immovable properties of the defaulters to the societies, inspection of societies, enquiry into petitions and general supervision over the societies assigned to them. The inspectors undertake touring work also in different parts of the district to attend to the work devolving on them. They inspect at least six societies in a month. They also convene general body meetings of all the societies after the completion of the annual audit which is attended to by the senior and junior district and special auditors. The inspectors have to ensure expeditious work under the plan programmes.

Animal Husbandry Department.

The animal husbandry activities of the district are being attended to by the District Veterinary Officer with his headquarters at Mercara. This officer looks after the veterinary institutions giving directions to the qualified veterinarians who are actually running the various veterinary hospitals and dispensaries. There are six urban dispensaries at Mercara, Napoklu, Somwarpet, Kushalnagar, Ponnampet and Ammathi, and twenty rural dispensaries at Suntikoppa, Murnad, Sampaje, Bhagamandala, Kakkabe, Kodlipet, Shanthalli, Sanivarasanthe, Madapur, Hebbale, Kutta, Srimangala, Tithimathi, Hudikeri, Balele, Marenad, Virajpet, Siddapur, Kadanga and Pollibetta. Stockmen or locally trained personnel are stationed in various rural areas of the district. These men are under the guidance and control of qualified veterinarians located in all taluk headquarters. The veterinary staff of the taluk headquarters are primarily responsible for the health and developmental activities pertaining to livestock and poultry within their respective areas. The District Veterinary Officer supervises the work of the stockmen working in the rural areas and in times of emergency, he has powers to locate the stockmen anywhere within the taluk area.

The District Veterinary Officer is also in additional charge of the central poultry farm located at Kudige. The people of Coorg possess a natural aptitude for rearing of poultry. A pucca poultry farm incorporating all the modern techniques not only to supply birds and eggs but also to serve as a training centre for both the raiyats and the development workers was started at Kudige in the year 1952, and three poultry units are attached to the veterinary dispensaries at Somwarpet, Ponnampet and Murnad, subsidiary to the main. At village level, two poultry development blocks, one at Kajoor in North Coorg and another at Aravathoklu in South Coorg have been functioning.

A cross-breeding centre to improve the breed of the local cattle by utilising superior Jersey bulls and Murrah buffaloes is

also functioning at Mercara with Central financial aid. This centre works under the direct control of the Director of Animal Husbandry.

Sericulture Department.

The Sericultural Assistant, Government Silk Farm, Kudige, is the controlling officer of sericultural activities in Coorg District. He is responsible to the Assistant Director of Sericulture, Mysore Division, and through him to the Director of Sericulture in Mysore. Under the Sericultural Assistant, there is one Sericultural Inspector, two Sericultural Demonstrators, ten Sericultural Operatives, one second division clerk, one clerk-*cum*-typist, one dalayat and one mali. The Sericultural Assistant directly looks after the Government Silk Farm and the Government grainages. The duties of the department comprise the supervision and guidance of the works in the farms, grainages and other sericultural institutions, inspection of mulberry gardens, and silkworm rearings of agriculturists, investigation of loan applications, arranging exhibitions and demonstrations during jatras and fairs, collection of statistical information, and arranging of programmes in connection with the preparation of disease-free layings in Government and aided grainages. The Sericultural Assistant also sees that foreign race and cross-breed disease-free layings are supplied in time to the sericulturists. He also renders technical help to the agriculturists who take up sericulture in new areas.

Department of Land Records and Settlement.

The District Survey Officer is in charge of the administration of the department at the district level. He is responsible to the Commissioner of Land Records, Bangalore, and Superintendent of Land Records, Mysore Division and also to the Deputy Commissioner of Coorg, who is also having control of land records work in the nad offices and supervises the land records work once a year during the annual *jamabandi*. With reference to maintenance of records, during the period of settlement, the District Survey Officer is responsible to the Deputy Commissioner. With reference to other technical matters involving policy, administration and control, he is responsible to the Commissioner for Settlement and Land Records. He is empowered to get the changes incorporated in the permanent survey records whenever necessary after field inspections. His main functions are to bring the survey records of the villages up-to-date during the currency of the settlement and incorporate all changes in the survey records, and to conduct survey and settlement operations in the villages taken over by the Government.

The District Survey Officer is assisted in his duties by one supervisor, three first division surveyors, thirteen second division surveyors, one supervisor, one draftsman and a head clerk besides some ministerial staff.

Registration Department.

The Deputy Commissioner of Coorg District is the *ex-officio* District Registrar. He is directly responsible to the Inspector-General of Registration and Commissioner of Stamps in Mysore. The District Registrar exercises general supervision over the Sub-Registry offices located in the taluks. He conducts inspections and approves the registrations effected under section 30 (1) of the Registration Act; he also conducts enquiries on appeal petitions preferred under section 72 (1) of the Act. The District Registrar is empowered to issue any order consistent with the Registration Act which he considers necessary in respect of any act or omission of any Sub-Registrar subordinate to him or in respect of the rectification of any error regarding the book or the office in which any document has been registered (Section 68 (2)).

There are three *ex-officio* Sub-Registrars having their headquarters at Virajpet, Somwarpet and Ponnampet and one wholetime Sub-Registrar at Mercara. The Sub-Registrars attend to the duties connected with the registration work of their respective jurisdictions. They are appointed as marriage officers under the Special Marriage Act, 1954.

Stamps Department.

The Deputy Commissioner of the district is the *ex-officio* Collector of Stamps in the district and the District Treasury Officer as well as the Sub-Treasury Officers act as *ex-officio* vendors in their respective jurisdictions. The judicial and non-judicial stamps are issued by the District Treasury Officer and Sub-Treasury Officers to the licensed vendors for sale to the public upto the value of Rs. 500. If the value of the stamps required by the public exceeds Rs. 500, the District Treasury Officer and the Sub-Treasury Officers issue the stamps to the parties direct.

The Collector of Stamps is directly responsible to the Commissioner of Stamps, the head of the Stamps Department. The Collector of Stamps has been empowered to take suitable action under the several sections of the Mysore Stamps Act. He has to deal with the documents which are brought to him for adjudication and fix stamp duty and penalty on documents impounded and forwarded by the Sub-Registrars.

Statistical Department.

The District Statistical Officer, South Kanara, is the officer in charge of the administration of the department in the Coorg District also at present. He is responsible to the Director of Statistics, Mysore. Having regard to the fact that the District Statistical Officer in South Kanara is also in charge of the district of Coorg, an extra staff consisting of one senior Statistical Assistant, one first division clerk, one second division clerk and two [illegible], has been allotted to his office. When the District Statistical Agency is established in Coorg during the Third Five-Year Plan period, as proposed, one statistical investigator, one typist-cum-clerk and two class IV officials will be provided to

the district in addition to the District Statistical Officer. The District Statistical Officer has to collect statistical data from various Government departments, correlate, analyse and publicise them for public information after the necessary approval from the Director of Statistics. This officer is assisted in his duties by a statistical investigator (non-gazetted).

Prohibition Department.

Prohibition has been in force in Coorg District with effect from 2nd April 1956. The burden of implementing the Prohibition Act has fallen on the police in addition to their own other regular duties. To effectively enforce prohibition in the district, a separate prohibition police squad consisting of one Sub-Inspector and five head-constables has been employed in addition to the regular police staff. The jurisdiction of this special squad extends over the entire district and this squad functions directly under the control of the Superintendent of Police, Coorg.

The Deputy Commissioner, Coorg, is in charge of the administration of the department. He is responsible to the Excise Commissioner in Mysore, who issues instructions to him from time to time in respect of excise matters. The powers exercised by the Deputy Commissioner are to issue and renew licences and permits for sale and consumption of liquor. He has powers to renew licences under the Dangerous Drugs Act, the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations Act, 1956, and the Opium Act, 1930, to renew licences for the purchase and sale of denatured spirits and to grant permits to obtain liquors and drugs for medical purposes. He is assisted in his work by one Assistant Prohibition Officer and three prohibition inspectors, one first division clerk, one second division clerk and four class IV officials.

Department of Industries.

The Assistant Director of Industries and Commerce, Hassan and Coorg Districts, was the officer in charge of the administration of the department in the district. But after the reorganisation of the department with effect from 1st February 1969, a separate Assistant Director has been placed in charge of the administration of the department at the district level. He is responsible to the Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore. He assists the Director in the execution of departmental plans and policies for the development of trade and industries in general in the district. The main functions of the Assistant Director of Industries and Commerce are undertaking of industrial surveys, collection of statistical information, drawing of schemes and plans for the development of industries taking into consideration the various economic factors such as the availability of raw materials, labour, power and water facilities in the area, supervision of the activities of the Rural Artisan Training Centres and model craft centres, such as model carpentry and smithy centres, sales emporia of the department and museums. The Assistant Director also exercises supervision over the activities of the Industrial Co-operative

Societies and renders them necessary help and guidance so as to ensure smooth functioning of these institutions. He also exercises supervision over the activities of the mahila samajas which have received assistance from the department for their industrial activities; he keeps watch over the progress of work of the Industrial Extension Officers, who function under the Block Development Officers with a view to seeing that substantial work is turned out by them and he accords necessary technical sanction to the industrial programmes in the development blocks and arranges for their successful implementation. He has also to implement the plans and schemes pertaining to all industries such as hand-looms, power-looms, silk, handicrafts, coir and small-scale industries, Khadi and Village Industries Board, recommend deserving cases for issue of machinery under hire-purchase scheme from the National Small Industries Corporation, New Delhi, guide the small-scale industries in the matter of location and procurement of raw materials, afford technical guidance to the industrialists and investigate loan records under the Mysore State Aid to Industries Act, 1959 and other enactments. Other items of work entrusted to the Assistant Director of Industries and Commerce are the inspection of factories and other industrial establishments, implementation of rural industrial schemes and supervision over the activities of Taluk Rural Industrial Co-operative Societies, distribution of controlled commodities like coke, coal, iron, steel and copper, and verification of the requirements of industrialists for grant of essentiality certificates.

The Assistant Director is assisted in his duties by certain technical staff consisting of one senior industrial supervisor, one junior industrial supervisor, one district weaving supervisor, one district industrial auditor, two weaving demonstrators, one jobber, one assistant inspector of civil supplies, three industrial extension officers and ministerial staff consisting of one first division clerk, two second division clerks, one typist and four dalayats.

The industrial supervisors and the industrial extension officers are empowered under various Government orders to supervise and inspect as and when necessary all the Rural Industrial Co-operative Societies and institutions like the hand-loom emporia, the samajas, the craft societies and prepare statistical data relating to the various schemes in their respective jurisdictions. They are expected to see that the various industrial loans which have been advanced to the people are being properly utilised for the specific purposes for which they have been sanctioned and they have also to see that the loans are duly repaid to the Government.

The district weaving supervisor and the weaving demonstrators assist the Assistant Director in all matters relating to the textile branch. They have to impart training to weavers in improved methods of weaving, conduct demonstrations, inspect weavers'

co-operative societies, sales emporia and dye-houses, collect statistics relating to hand-loom industry, register new societies and report about irregularities and misappropriation of cash and stock, if any, noticed in the societies.

The jobber has to arrange for the installation of power-looms and to bring them to working order. He is responsible for the introduction of new designs and patterns and for the proper maintenance and repair of looms installed.

The district industrial auditor conducts the audit work of all Rural Industrial Co-operative Societies and craft co-operative societies in the district.

Community Development.

The Divisional Commissioner, Mysore Division, is designated as the Joint Development Commissioner for the purpose of implementing the Community Development Programmes in the district. The State Government have decentralised the powers of the Development Commissioner recently, so that the Joint Development Commissioner exercises powers to minimise delays. In order to increase effectiveness in the implementation of the community development programmes, the powers of the Deputy Commissioner have been increased. The progress reports of all the blocks are reviewed by the Deputy Commissioner and, after his approval, sent to the Development Commissioner and the Divisional Commissioner once a month. The heads of development departments are responsible for the proper execution of the several programmes in the various blocks. All the taluks in the district are covered by the development blocks.

The Deputy Commissioner of the district has been designated as the Deputy Development Commissioner for the Community Development programme. All the development blocks in the district come under the jurisdiction of the Deputy Commissioner. According to the standard pattern, the following are the block level extension officers working in several development blocks ; (1) Agriculture Extension Officer, (2) Animal Husbandry Extension Officer, (3) Rural Engineering Extension Officer, (4) Co-operative Extension Officer, (5) Social Education Organiser (men), (6) Mukhyasevika and (7) Industrial Extension Officer. In addition to these, gram sevaks and gram sevikas are working at the village level. The gram sevaks are trained in the fundamentals of agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operation, rural engineering, health and sanitation and crafts. They are expected to demonstrate to the villagers simple improved methods and techniques in the various fields. Each block is in charge of a Block Development Officer who also functions as the Chief Executive Officer of the Taluk Board.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Early History.

COORG was a separate administrative unit, first under the Rajas, then under the Chief Commissioners appointed by the Britishers and, quite recently, under the popular ministry till November 1956. It was under British rule from 1834 to 1947, over a century and a decade. The benefits conferred by the British rule during this period were many and varied. The English built this State from a small loose-knit feudal principality into a prosperous and well-administered unit. Under the British rule, Coorg was kept under the direct control of the Central Government.

The history of local self-government in the Coorg district may be traced back to the year 1870, when the first Municipal Committees were established in the towns of Mercara and Virajpet. In 1873, Kushalnagar, Somwarpet and Kodlipet were also brought under the Municipal Act. The municipal committees thus established began to tackle for the first time the civic problems of the respective areas. Later, such committees were also set up at the taluk headquarter towns and some of the villages. In these committees, several influential men with experience began earnestly to devote their attention to the several problems concerning local self-government. All the branches of the official hierarchy were represented on these committees. Government introduced, as and when necessary, suitable regulations to conduct the day-to-day affairs of these civic bodies. In the rural areas, where some practical difficulties existed in the way of forming regular municipal boards, regulations were applied and enforced through revenue officers.

The Mercara Municipal Committee consisted of five official members and eight non-official members and the Virajpet Municipal Committee consisted of two official members and six non-official members in the year 1877. In the year 1882, Mercara town had a population of six thousand people and Virajpet town had four thousand five hundred and eighty. When Lt. Col. Robertson was the Chief Commissioner of Coorg in 1896, the

people of Coorg began to play a prominent role in the administrative and municipal activities of the State. The municipalities then had an income from house-tax, tax on cattle pounds, local fund contributions, market fees and fines.

The collections from octroi were begun in the year 1870. The income of the two municipalities of Mercara and Virajpet (then known as Virarajendrapet) was derived from octroi on articles brought for sale on market days, taxes on manufacture and fines. In 1873-74, a house tax was imposed by the Mercara (then known as Mahadeopet) Municipality.

The following table gives figures relating to the receipts and disbursements of the Mahadeopet (Mercara) Municipality and the Municipality of Virajpet during the years 1873-74, 1874-75 and 1875-76.

Year		*Mahadeopet (Mercara)*		*Virajpet*	
		Receipts	*Disbursements*	*Receipts*	*Disbursements*
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1873-74	..	4,683	3,556	2,908	1,689
1874-75	..	4,876	3,802	3,776	816
1875-76	..	3,802	3,263	2,331	3,483

The funds were permitted to accumulate as much as possible, with the view of raising sufficient money to provide proper means of water supply for the towns.

In 1872-73, the towns of Fraserpet, Somwarpet and Kodlipet were also brought under the provisions of the Municipal Act, but the operations were confined to conservancy.

The income of the Mercara Municipality in the year 1948 was Rs. 87,807 and the income of the Virajpet Municipality was Rs. 85,301. Virajpet Municipality collected Rs. 70,535 in the shape of octroi duty alone from November 1947 to February 1949.

The municipalities of Mercara and Virajpet were brought under full non-official administration since 1916, and both of them are now enjoying a full measure of self-government.

Coorg District Board.

The Coorg District Board was constituted in the year 1901 in accordance with the provisions of Coorg Act No. XI of 1900, with five *ex-officio* members, nine nominated members and two

elected members. The Commissioner of Coorg was the President of the District Board then. Toll-gates, markets, issue of licences, ferries, primary and higher elementary education, travellers' bungalows, and the mofussil dispensaries were under the control and administration of the District Board. The election of a non-official member as the president of the Board came into practice in December 1932. But this procedure ceased with effect from 1952 when the control of the Board passed on to the hands of the Assistant Commissioner of Coorg who became its *ex-officio* president.

The chief items of revenue of the Board were the land cess, market fees, house-tax, profession tax, Government grants and school fees.

Functions of the District Board.

The educational institutions in the rural areas were the biggest concern of the District Board. The schools that were under the management of the District Board were under the control of the Coorg Education Department. In the year 1931, the number of District Board schools was 88 and the number of students was 6,071. In comparision to its resources, the Board spent a lot for education and it bore the big responsibility of meeting the cost of education in the rural areas. In the year 1941-42, there were 78 District Board schools with 8,367 pupils and 207 teachers. The total expenses met in 1942, in this regard, including Government grant, were Rs. 2,42,951. In 1951 52, the District Board spent Rs. 3.19 lakhs on education alone and the municipalities and the Notified Area Committees in their respective centres also contributed towards the schools maintained in their jurisdiction. The District Board also maintained village communication roads; public improvements such as putting up of bridges, repairs to ferry boats, and well works were also being attended to by the Board. The District Board Ayurvedic dispensaries functioned at Bhagamandala, Hebbale, and Kodlipet. The Board institutions were taken under Government management from April 1953 and provision was made to reorganise them on sound lines.

The term of office of the members of the Board expired on 15th June 1952. Fresh elections were not held as it was decided to abolish the Board. A resolution to this effect was discussed in the Coorg Legislative Assembly in 1952. Pending enactment of the necessary legislation for the formal abolition of the Board, the Assistant Commissioner of Coorg was appointed as *ex-officio* president of the Board with effect from 16th June 1952 for the purpose of carrying on the functions of the Board till its abolition. It was abolished with effect from 1st April 1953 and the various educational and medical institutions that were under its management were taken over by Government. Steps were also taken to

treat the employees of the Board on a par with Government servants.

After India attained independence, the position of the local self-governing institutions was put on a firm basis and in the pursuit of this policy, several far-reaching changes have been introduced. The most striking among them was the introduction of adult suffrage in all municipal areas. The privilege of electing their presidents and vice-presidents has been extended to most of the local bodies.

Municipalities

There are only two municipalities in the district, *viz.*, the Mercara Town Municipality and the Municipality of Virajpet. The small towns of Kodlipet, Sanivarsanthe, Somwarpet, Kushalnagar, Hebbale, Suntikoppa, Gonikoppal and Ponnampet have been declared as Notified Areas.* The affairs of these local bodies are administered by a committee of elected and nominated members. The presidents of the Notified Areas, except in Somwarpet, Kushalnagar, Sanivarsanthe and Ponnampet, are nominated by the Government. There are twenty-four village panchayats in Mercara taluk, forty in Virajpet taluk and thirty-two in Somwarpet taluk. The main duties of the president of the municipality are to preside over the meetings of the municipality and to watch over the financial and executive administration. He also exercises supervision and control over the acts and proceedings of all officers and officials of the municipality. The vice-president performs all the functions of the president in his absence. The Municipal Act envisages the division of municipal functions into various categories which include consideration of all matters relating to sanitation, health, public convenience and general well-being of the population. The other functions include construction of parks, gardens, libraries and rest houses.

Mercara Municipality—Early history

Mercara owed its importance in the beginning entirely to its being the residence of the Rajas. In the year 1817, there were 300 houses in Mercara. After the advent of the British, and the opening of Coorg for outside trade and commerce, Mercara's prosperity began. It was constituted as a Municipality in 1870. The Municipal Committee, then consisted of nine members, three of whom were *ex-officio* and the rest influential residents of the town. The *ex-officio* members were the Superintendent of Coorg, the officer commanding Mercara, and the Subedar of Mahadeopet. It had 1,637 houses and 8,146 people in 1871. The municipal receipts and expenditure for 1875-76 were Rs. 3,[illegible] and Rs. 3,263-14-5, respectively. The municipal income for 1903-1904 was Rs. 18,[illegible]. In the year 1958-59, the income of the

* With effect from 1st April 1965, the Notified Area Committees in Coorg District function as town municipal councils under the Mysore Municipalities Act, 1965 (Mysore Act 22 of 1964).

Mercara Municipality amounted to Rs. 3,80,982 while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 2,96,285. The income included Rs. 1,17,056 from octroi duties, Rs. 26,736.58 from house-tax, Rs. 14,401.25 from profession tax and about Rs. 57,000 from Government grants under various heads.

Present set-up.

Mercara town was constituted into a Town Municipality in accordance with the provisions of the Coorg Municipal Regulation of 1907 (II of 1907). It had a population of 14,453 according to the Census of 1961. The municipality has been divided into 12 wards. The council consists of sixteen members. Three Government officers representing the Public Health Department, the Revenue Department and the P. W. D. are nominated to the council. One seat on the council is reserved for a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes. The council meets once a month regularly. The tenure of the members is three years.

Thanks to the co-operation of the Mercara House Construction Society, many new extensions in the town have come up. House sites are also being granted to the people for construction of houses. The new extension beyond Kohinoor Road, the Stuart extension to the west of the Rose Bank and the Parade extension near the Government First Grade College are some of the new extensions that have been formed in the town.

There is no proper drainage system in Coorg. Open drains have been provided in the more important streets of Mercara. Latrines are either of the borehole type or of the removal system. Bore-hole latrines have been provided even in some rural areas.

Many places in the district including Mercara were highly malarial some years ago and the people from the neighbouring districts of Mysore, Malabar and South Kanara were dreading to come to Coorg. But thanks to the intensive spraying of D.D.T. mixture among the residential buildings, water pools and ponds, malaria has been almost completely eradicated from Coorg. The town is also free from epidemics like cholera, plague, small-pox, typhoid and other diseases.

The Public Health staff consisted of, as on 17th April 1964, one health inspector, one sanitary inspector, one mid-wife, one dafedar and twenty-four sweepers. The sanitary inspector maintains the births and deaths register and also attends to vaccination work in the town.

There is a municipal building at Mahadeopet in which the Medical Department is running a dispensary. The municipality is arranging to send a mid-wife and a sweeper to work in the above dispensary.

The municipality maintains three primary schools for boys and one primary school for girls.

Parks.

The municipal council is maintaining a two-winged garden on either side of the spacious compound of the municipal office. The municipal offices are located in a portion of the Town Hall constructed by the municipal authorities in the year 1953. Seating accommodation for about a thousand persons has been provided in the Town Hall.

Annual horticultural shows are conducted in Mercara town. The municipality maintains a spacious bus-stand with facilities for booking seats by the travellers in the several buses running in different directions from Mercara. A shelter for travellers has also been constructed by the Municipal Council in the Chickpet area to cater for the needs of the travelling public.

With a view to providing protected tap water to the people of the town, a narrow valley between two hills was dammed and an artificial reservoir was created through the efforts of the late *Rai Bahadur* Cheppudira Somayya. This reservoir known as the Mahadeopet reservoir is above the left of the northern toll-gate. Consequent on the increase of the population in the town, two other tanks, one above the station cricket ground (Mann's compound) known as the Depot Reservoir and another near the junction of the Siddapur and Suntikoppa roads, known as the Roshanara reservoir were constructed. Water has to be pumped up to this reservoir from the collection tank attached to this system. The general supply position is still meagre and far from satisfactory, especially during the summer months.

Mercara has a plan to draw water from the Abbi falls about three miles from the town and a scheme of Rs. 20 lakhs has been finalised. A bank has come forward to give the entire amount as loan provided the Government guarantees its repayment. In the present state of economic stringency and commitments of the municipality such a guarantee from the Government will be difficult and hence the municipality has increased house-tax, profession tax, market and stall rents and conservancy charges since 1963 and expects a total income of Rs. 5 lakhs as a result of these enhancements. On the expenditure side, the establishment, recurring expenses and repayments of loans come to the tune of Rs. 3 lakhs leaving a repaying capacity of Rs. 2 lakhs per year and it is hoped to get the Government guarantee and the loan from the bank.

The total road mileage under the municipal administration is about 22 miles, of which three miles are tarred roads, three miles and two furlongs are metalled roads and sixteen miles are kutcha roads.

The financial position of the municipality is sound. The collection of octroi duties is an additional source of revenue.

The total income of the municipality in the year 1960-61 amounted to Rs. 2,94,903, while the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,05,756. In the year 1961-62, the income of the municipality amounted to Rs. 3,33,949 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 2,78,979. During the year 1962-63, the receipts of the municipality were Rs. 3,07,744 and the payments were Rs. 3,14,065. In the year 1963-64, the income amounted to Rs. 4,54,444 while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,20,816.

The municipality has provided primary and nursery schools and children's play grounds. All the drains are cement concreted. As the town is situated in hilly area, there is natural surface drainage. So the town is normally clean and epidemics and contagious diseases are rare.

Friday is the market day at Mercara. It is held in the market built on the site which formerly belonged to Sahukar Shetty Muhammed Hussein. In the year 1909, the late *Rai Bahadur* Cheppudira Somayya purchased the site and donated it to the municipality in memory of his wife. The road on the southern side of the market is named after Sahukar Shetty Muhammed Hussein.

Mercara is now attracting tourists in large numbers. As there is a fine road connecting Mangalore with Mysore and Bangalore through Mercara, people can travel comfortably in buses from South Kanara to Mysore and Bangalore.

Virajpet Municipality.

Virajpet was founded by Viraraja, in memory of his meeting Sir Robert Abercromby in the year 1792. The municipality was established in the year 1870. The municipal committee then consisted of nine members, three of whom were *ex-officio* and the rest influential residents, who were representatives of their class, selected as vacancies occurred by the Board and sanctioned by the Chief Commissioner. The *ex-officio* members were the Assistant Superintendent, the Assistant Engineer and the Subedar. With effect from 1925, the president is being elected from among the elected members. Elections from 1952 are conducted on the basis of adult franchise once in three years.

The municipality has been divided into fifteen wards. The municipal council consists of fifteen elected members, three *ex-officio* members, *viz.*, the District Health Officer, Tahsildar, Virajpet Taluk, and the Assistant Engineer, Public Works Department, Virajpet, and one nominated member belonging to the Scheduled Castes or Tribes. The council is constituted once in three years.

There has been no planned lay-out of new extensions in the municipal area. The two colonies, *viz.*, Gandhinagar and Nehrunagar, due to their geographical contiguity, have been included within the municipal limits.

The Virajpet Municipality with a loan from the State Government to the tune of Rs. 7,50,000 has completed a scheme of getting protected water from Kadnoor river and the distribution of water was inaugurated recently.

Almost all the streets have been provided with open cement drains.

The town is free from epidemic diseases. Information relating to vital statistics is obtained from the Medical Officer, Civil Hospital, Virajpet and from the municipal mid-wife. Vital statistics are being regularly sent to the State Statistician in the first week of every month. The Sanitary Assistant looks after the work of vaccination. There were eighteen sweepers and one daffedar in the municipality as on 31st March 1964.

The municipality is not running any maternity and child welfare centres.

The municipality, besides contributing a sum of Rs. 1,800, annually to private educational institutions, is maintaining a primary school at an annual recurring expenditure of Rs. 15,000. Two nursery schools at an annual cost of Rs. 2,000 are also being run by the municipality.

The municipal council has provided a park in the centre of the town and is contemplating to open another park in the town shortly.

The municipality is running a reading room in the Town Hall where news-papers and periodicals are provided for the public to read. The Town Hall at Virajpet was constructed in the year 1932 by the Town Municipal Council. A radio has also been provided for the entertainment of the public.

The Town Hall was extended in the year 1956 with a view to providing more seating accommodation in the hall. To accommodate the administrative staff associated with the municipality more conveniently, a new building has been constructed and the offices accommodated there.

The financial position of the municipality is sound. The main sources of income of this municipality are octroi, house-tax and profession tax. During the year 1958-59, the income of the municipality amounted to Rs. 1,84,961, the expenditure

amounted to Rs. 1,29,536 [illegible] was Rs. 56,425. In the year 1959-60, the [illegible] to Rs. 1,34,759, the expenditure amounted to [illegible] and the closing balance was Rs. 20,880. During 19[illegible], the receipts of the municipality were Rs. 1,51,069 but the expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,66,295. In the year 1961-62, the income of the municipality amounted to Rs. 2,16,931, while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,74,087. In the year 1962-63, the receipts were Rs. 4,08,462 and the payments were Rs. 1,71,639. In 1963-64, the income of the municipality amounted to Rs. 4,78,447 while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,48,198. The main handicap, according to the municipal authorities, in providing further amenities such as underground drainage, play centres for children and centres for cultural activities was financial difficulty. The municipality therefore has proposed to increase the licence fee on all traders, octroi duty on certain items and stall rents.

Notified Area, Somwarpet.

This local body seems to have come into existence in the year 1922. The President of this Notified Area, at first, was the Tahsildar of the taluk. With effect from 1944, the President as well as the Vice-President are elected non-officials. The Notified Area Committee consists of twelve members of whom seven are elected members, four are *ex-officio* members nominated by Government and one seat on the committee is set apart for one Harijan member who is also nominated by Government. Being a small town with a population of about 5,000, the town has not been divided into any divisions or wards. The town being located in a prosperous plantation area, it has a flourishing trade in coffee, cardamom, paddy and oranges.

New lay-outs, *viz.*, Mahadeswara Block, Range Office Block and Vallabh Bhai Block, have sprung up recently.

At present, the water supply to this town is from wells and tanks. With a view to arranging protected water supply to the town, a scheme is already under execution by the Public Works Department. The works are likely to be completed shortly.

There is no underground drainage system in the town. Open drains have been provided throughout.

The Notified Area is not maintaining any maternity or child welfare centres nor any educational institutions, but it is contributing annually a sum of Rs. 3,000 for educational purposes to the educational authorities in the district. It is contributing Rs. 1,000 per annum for providing mid-day meals to the poor boys studying in the Senior Basic School; Rs. 750 per annum to the Sishu Vihar run by the Mahila Sahakara Samaja; Rs. 250 to Our Lady of Victory Convent; Rs. 1,000 per annum

for the award of prizes to the students studying in the Government High School and Senior Basic School; Rs. 50 towards the celebration of the Dasara; Rs. 50 towards the celebration of the Independence Day and Rs. 50 for the Republic Day celebration.

The committee paid a sum of Rs. 5,000 during the year 1961-62 towards the construction of a ward in the Civil Hospital, Somwarpet; Rs. 100 to the District Sangeeth Nataka Academy in the year 1962; and Rs. 750 towards the maintenance of Dr. Modi's Eye Camp in 1963.

It is running a reading room in the municipal office premises and has installed a radio for public recreation in the office premises. It has provided electric street lights, water wells, good tarred roads, weekly market place, and a bus-stand with all amenities to the travelling public.

As on 19th of April 1964, there were one mid-wife, one daffedar and fifteen sweepers on the health staff of the Notified Area. The public health authorities looked after the vaccination work. The births and deaths register was being maintained by the patel and the mid-wife. The place has been free from epidemics and it is being kept clean and tidy by the health staff attached to the Notified Area.

In the year 1961-62, the income of the Notified Area amounted to Rs. 91,417 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,13,100. In the year 1962-63, the receipts were Rs. 72,538 and the payments were Rs. 1,22,718. During 1963-64, the income amounted to Rs. 90,344 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,22,400.

Notified Area, Kodlipet.

This Notified Area was first established in the year 1890. Till 1936, this place was being managed by a committee consisting of eleven members of whom four were *ex-officio* members. All these eleven members were being nominated by the Government, till elections were held in the year 1936. Six members including the vice-president were elected by the people. Of the other five members on the committee, four were *ex-officio* members and one member represented the Scheduled Castes. As on 20th April 1964, the Notified Area Committee consisted of eleven members, of whom, four were *ex-officio* members, six elected members and one member belonged to the Scheduled Castes. The Tahsildar of Somwarpet continues to be the *ex-officio* president of the committee. But the vice-presidentship has become an elective office. He is being elected from among the elected members of the Area Committee. Kodlipet being only a small place it has not been divided into wards or divisions.

At present, there is no milk supply centre in the town, but there is a proposal to establish a centre for the supply of milk shortly in the town.

No new extensions have been formed, but a reference has been made to the Government seeking approval for the formation of new extensions in the town.

Wells are the only source of water-supply at present to the town. Water supply is not adequate to the needs of the people. A scheme has been prepared to obtain water supply from the Hemavathi river situated about a mile and a half from the town. Plans and estimates in connection with this scheme have been submitted to Government for their approval and sanction. At present, about 20,000 gallons of filtered water are being supplied daily to the people of the area for only eight months in the year. During the rest of the year *viz.*, during February, March, April and May, the people have to depend upon the river and the five public wells in the area for their supply of water. There were 30 public taps as on 20th April 1964.

Three-fourths of the town area has been provided with open drainage facilities and the rest will also be covered shortly.

There is a maternity ward attached to the local Government hospital. The Notified Area Committee is not running any child welfare centre. The committee is not maintaining any educational institution.

The committee is not maintaining any park now. But it has sent up a proposal seeking Government sanction to permit the committee to form a park in the town.

The town is free from communicable diseases and the health of the people of the town is being properly safeguarded by the sanitation and public health staff of the Notified Area. There were six sweepers in the Notified Area as on 20th April 1964. The Patel was maintaining the register of births and deaths in the area and the Health Inspector attached to the Public Health Department looked after the vaccination work. The area committee was contributing Rs. 144 per annum to the Public Health Department for this purpose. The committee feels that Government should take action to sanction at least one mid-wife to the area.

In the year 1961-62, the income of the Notified Area amounted to Rs. 13,849, while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 16,597; in the year 1962-63, the receipts were Rs. 14,000 and the payments were Rs. 18,150. During 1963-64, the income amounted to Rs. 23,633 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 19,432.

Notified Area, Gonikoppal.

This town was formed into a Notified Area in the year 1958. Prior to this, the civic affairs of this town were being managed by the District Board. The Notified Area Committee consists of thirteen members, out of whom four are *ex-officio* members nominated by Government, eight are elected members including a lady member and one member belonging to the Scheduled Castes nominated by the Committee. The Tahsildar of Virajpet taluk is the *ex-officio* president of the committee. The vice-president is elected from among the members.

The Notified Area Committee has not laid out any new extension in the town. There were 290 buildings in this area as on 24th April 1964.

A water supply scheme is functioning in this town. Formerly, it was under the control of the District Health Department. Now, the water works are being maintained by the Notified Area Committee. Thirteen taps have been installed for the use of the public. The present supply of water is not adequate.

A scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,09,000 for the supply of protected water to the people of the area has been prepared by the Notified Area authorities. The concerned plans and estimates prepared by the Public Works Department in this regard, have been submitted to the Superintending Engineer, Mangalore Circle, for needful action. The Notified Area Committee has requested the Government to bear the entire cost of the scheme or at least to meet half the cost and give the other half of the cost amount as a free grant to them with a view to enabling them to implement the scheme.

'U' type masonry drainage system has been provided in the town.

The Notified Area Committee is not running any maternity or child welfare centre in the town. But there is a Government civil hospital with a provision of fifty beds for the treatment of in-patients.

The District Public Health Department looks after the sanitation of the town. A Public Health Inspector residing at Ponnampet, a place three miles from Gonikoppal, looks after the sanitary arrangements in the area. The town is free from communicable diseases and enjoys a healthy climate. The clerk in the notified area office maintains the register of births and deaths. The health inspector attends to vaccination work in the area.

The Area Committee is not maintaining any educational institution in the town, but there is a Government senior basic school with a strength of eight hundred students and eighteen

teachers. The public of the area have started a High School meant for both boys and girls. The Notified Area authorities have contributed Rs. 5,000 for the construction of the High School. The vice-president of the Notified Area Committee is also the vice-president of the school managing committee.

A small park has been formed in front of the office. A radio has been installed there for the recreation of the people.

The Notified Area Committee is maintaining eight furlongs of road out of which, three furlongs are tarred, three furlongs are metalled and two are of mud. A decent bus stand with all amenities has been constructed in the centre of the place at a cost of Rs. 3,000. The committee has also constructed a Town Hall with attached office rooms at a cost of Rs. 26,900, and a ten-roomed shop building which fetches them an annual rent of Rs. 1,800.

The Notified Area Committee is not maintaining any guest or rest houses.

The financial position of the Notified Area Committee is sound. The various sources of revenue are the house-tax, the profession-tax, market-fees, fees on hotels and eating houses, fees on sales of meat and fish, octroi duties on petrol and other goods and other miscellaneous fees.

During the year 1961-62, the income of the Notified Area amounted to Rs. 34,026 while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 27,271. In 1962-63, the receipts were Rs. 85,101. and the payments were Rs. 42,567. In the year 1963-64, the income amounted to Rs. 81,657 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 33,263.

Notified Area, Ponnampet

The town of Ponnampet goes after the name of Dewan Ponnappa. This Notified Area was established in the year 1952. Before that, it was a village panchayat. There were thirteen members on the committee as on 24th April 1964. Four members were *ex-officio* councillors and the other nine were elected members. In this Notified Area Committee, both the president and vice-president are elected officials. One seat on the committee has been set apart for a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes.

There are two extensions for the Harijans; one is called the Nehru colony and the other is known as the Krishna colony.

A number of wells have been sunk to provide drinking water to the people of the town. A scheme for supply of protected water to the place has been submitted to Government in 1963 by the Public Works Department.

Open drains have been constructed in two streets of the town. The work of providing drains in the other streets also is progressing well.

The Notified Area Committee is not running any maternity and child welfare centres. It is also not running any educational institutions.

There are no recreation parks in this area. The committee is paying Rs. 600 per annum to the local Ramakrishna Sevashrama Hospital. This institution started by the Ramakrishna Mission, Ponnampet, is maintained out of public donations and is rendering very useful service to the people of the area.

The town is a healthy place and it is free from epidemic diseases. A sanitary assistant attached to the Health Department looks after vaccination work in the area. He also maintains the register of births and deaths. There are also three sweepers in the area.

The financial position of the local body is sound. In the year 1961-62, the receipts of the Notified Area were Rs. 25,380 while the payments were Rs. 14,684. In 1962-63, the income amounted to Rs. 25,999, while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 15,729. In the year 1963-64, the receipts were Rs. 30,988 and the payments were Rs. 17,466.

Notified Area, Suntikoppa.

Suntikoppa town was declared as a Notified Area in the year 1954. Prior to this, the municipal administration of this area was under the control of the District Board. As this is only a small town, it has not been divided into divisions or wards. The committee consists of ten members of whom six are elected while the other four are *ex-officio* members nominated by Government. The Tahsildar of Somwarpet Taluk is the president of the committee. The vice-president is elected from among the elected members.

No new extensions have been formed at present. But the committee proposes to establish new extensions in the area shortly.

The area committee is not running any milk supply centre. The people of the town are getting their daily needs of milk from the surrounding villages and a few cattle owners in the area.

The present source of water supply to the town is a big well situated at a distance of half a furlong from the town. Two water tanks have been constructed near this well. From here water is distributed to the people through taps; 20,000 gallons of water are being daily supplied to the people. There were fifteen public taps and nineteen private taps in the town as on 18th April 1964. Open surface drains have been provided in the area.

The Notified Area Committee is not maintaining any maternity or child welfare centre nor is it running any educational institution. No park is being maintained by the committee. It proposes to establish shortly a public library in the town.

The Notified Area Committee contributes a small sum of Rs. 144 to the Public Health Department for the services of a health inspector who frequently visits this town from Somwarpet. The health inspector looks after the sanitary arrangements in the town and attends to the vaccination work also in the area. The Health Department authorities have allotted three mid-wives to attend to labour cases in the town and the surrounding areas. There were three sweepers in the area to attend to scavenging work as on 18th of April 1964. There were one hundred and fifty pucca houses in the town, as on 18th April 1964. There were five public conveniences in the area.

The local Government Hospital caters for the medical needs of the people. There is also a Government Veterinary hospital in the area.

The financial position of the Notified Area Committee is not sound. The incidence of taxation is Rs. 15.8 per head. The sources of income are the house-taxes, profession taxes, market fees, slaughter house fees, licence fees and water-tax.

In 1961-62, the income of the Notified Area amounted to Rs. 22,350 while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 50,670. In the year 1962-63, the receipts were Rs. 18,402, and the payments were Rs. 49,362. In 1963-64, the income amounted to Rs. 24,524 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 32,315.

Notified Area, Sanivarsanthe

This town was constituted into a Notified Area in the year 1954. This town constitutes only one unit and has not been divided into any wards or divisions. The Area Committee consists of nine members, of whom six are elected members and the other three are nominated *ex-officio* members. The *ex-officio* members are the local Medical Officer, the nad parpathigar and the Tahsildar of Somwarpet taluk. The Tahsildar is the president of the Area Committee. The vice-president is elected from among the elected members of the committee.

A new extension called the Thyagarajpet colony has been formed in the area and there were sixty houses in the same as on 21st of April 1964.

The source of water supply to the people of the town is the Sanivarasanthe river. Water from the river is pumped to an over-head tank constructed near the Inspection Bungalow. Daily, about 50,000 gallons of filtered water are supplied to the people

through taps. There were twenty-five public taps and sixty eight private connections in the area as on 21st of April 1964.

Open 'V' shaped drains have been provided in the town.

A small park with a fountain has been formed before the Area Committee office. There were three hundred and fifty houses in the town as on 21st April 1964.

The place is free from communicable diseases. The sanitary inspector attached to Public Health Department attends to vaccination work and supervises the sanitary arrangements. The revenue officials maintain the register of births and deaths. There is a maternity ward attached to the local Government hospital. The committee is not running any child welfare centre. There were four sweepers in the area, and there were two public lavatories in the place as on 21st April 1964. There is one private high school known as Sanivarasanthe High School under the management of a private committee. The Notified Area Committee contributed a sum of Rs. 2,500 to the high school during 1959-60. The Committee also, contributed Rs. 500 to the local Mahila Samaja during 1958-59 and Rs. 500 to the Urdu Primary School during 1963-64.

The local Government Civil Hospital and the Government Maternity Home cater for the medical needs of the people.

There is one veterinary hospital with an artificial insemination centre attached to it.

A Public Health Department official associated with the National Malaria Eradication Programme visits the place once a week in connection with the programme.

The Area Committee is not maintaining any rest houses or guest houses. The committee constructed a bus shelter near the bus stand at a cost of Rs. 7,000 in 1962-63 with all amenities for the travelling public.

The Area Committee is maintaining a reading room with an attached library for the convenience of the reading public. There is also a radio near the reading room.

The financial position of the Notified Area Committee is sound. It derives its income from profession tax, house tax, water tax, market fees, slaughter house fees and other miscellaneous fees.

During the year 1961-62, the income of the Notified Area amounted to Rs. 92,529, while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 88,253. In 1962-63, the receipts were Rs. 84,457, while the

payments were Rs. 76,370. In the year 1963-64, the income amounted to Rs. 69,615 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 31,110.

The town is called Sanivarasanthe because the weekly market is held here on Saturday.

Notified Area, Kushalnagar.

This town formerly called Kushalnagar was named Fraserpet after Col. Fraser, the first Commissioner of Coorg, but by the natives it was commonly called Kushalnagar, the city of joy, a name bestowed on it by Haider Ali. Its original name has now been restored and now it is once again called Kushalnagar. This Notified Area Committee was constituted in the year 1908. The town is situated on the border of the Coorg district. It has been divided into four wards. There are eleven members on the committee. Four of them are *ex-officio* members and they are the Public Works Department Section Officer, the Medical Officer of the local Government hospital, the Parpathigar of Kushalnagar hobli and the Tahsildar of Somwarpet taluk. There is an elected non-official President who presides over the meetings of the committee. The other six members are elected members and the vice-president is elected from among them. One seat on the committee is set apart for a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes who is nominated by Government.

The Cauvery river which flows close to the town is the source of water supply to the people. The river water is stored in a tank constructed at an elevated place nearby and from here, water is distributed to the people through taps. The capacity of the tank is about 30,000 gallons. The Notified Area Committee has proposed to construct an overhead water tank at an estimated cost of Rs. 24,500 for which the Government have sanctioned a loan of Rs. 20,000 to the committee. There were sixty-five public taps and one hundred and twenty house connections in the area as on 18th April 1964. About thirteen gallons of water per head are now being supplied to the people in the town daily.

Open surface drains have been provided in the town.

There is a Government hospital with a maternity ward attached to it. The Notified Area Committee is not maintaining any medical institution.

The sanitary assistant attached to the Public Health Department looks after the sanitation work in the town. He also attends to the work of vaccination in the area. For the services of the sanitary assistant, the Area Committee is paying a contribution of Rs. 144 to the Public Health Department. The Parpathigar of the hobli maintains the register of births and deaths in the area. Five sweepers have been employed in the area.

The town is healthy and is free from epidemics. There are no parks in the area.

The Notified Area Committee is not running any educational institution in the town.

Daily, about forty to forty-five buses, one hundred to one hundred and fifty lorries and thirty to forty private cars pass through the municipal limits in the town.

The financial position of the committee is sound. The sources of income are the profession tax, vehicles tax, house tax, octroi duties, slaughter house fees, and bus-stand fees, water-tax, market fees and rent on municipal buildings.

In the year 1961-62, the income of the Notified Area amounted to Rs. 39,736 while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 26,858. In 1962-63, the receipts were Rs. 39,795 and the payments were Rs. 50,179. During 1963-64, the income amounted to Rs. 50,952 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 41,139.

Notified Area, Hebbale.

The place was first constituted into a Notified Area with effect from 1st October 1938. The place then belonged to Kushalnagar hobli, North Coorg Taluk. It now belongs to Somwarpet taluk. The first meeting of the Notified Area Committee was held on 28th of October 1938. In the year 1938, there were eleven members in the committee; nine were elected members, while two were *ex-officio* members. They were the Tahsildar of Somwarpet taluk and the Headmaster, Government Senior Basic School, Hebbale.

In the year 1948, the Notified Area Committee was allowed to elect its vice-president from among the members of the committee. Also in this year, the doctor attached to the Civil Hospital at Hebbale and the Parpathigar, Kushalnagar hobli, became associated with the committee as *ex-officio* members.

The Notified Area Committee consisted of thirteen members as on 22nd of April 1964, of whom nine were elected members while the other four were *ex-officio* members. The Tahsildar of Somwarpet taluk continues to be the president of the committee while the vice-president is elected from among the members of the committee. One seat on the committee is set apart for a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes.

There were four hundred and forty-one houses in the area as on 22nd of April 1964. The Cauvery river, which runs at a distance of about ¾th of a mile from the place is the source of water supply to the area. About 15,000 gallons of water are being supplied to the people daily. There were twelve public taps in the place as on 22nd of April 1964.

Open 'V' shaped drains have been provided in the town. The town is free from epidemics like cholera, plague, small pox, typhoid and dysentery. The Patel maintains the register of births and deaths. The health inspector attends to the vaccination work. The Area Committee has employed four sweepers for scavenging work.

The Committee is not running any educational institutions in the town. It is not maintaining any medical institutions either in the area. It has not provided any electric lights in the town so far.

The doctor attached to the Civil Hospital at Sanivarsanthe attends to the patients in the Civil Hospital at Hebbale every Monday. The Notified Area authorities have requested Government that a doctor may permanently be posted to the local hospital. They have also requested that a veterinary doctor be posted to the veterinary hospital here as there is a large number of cattle in this place.

During the year 1961-62, the income of the Notified Area amounted to Rs. 19,268 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 9,992. In the year 1962-63, the receipts were Rs. 15,843 while the payments were Rs. 12,240. In 1963-64, the income amounted to Rs. 7,014 while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,974.

The Notified Area Committee has sought Government aid for the construction of good roads in the area as it is not able to finance these schemes. It has also requested Government to help it in the construction of a bus-stand with shelter and with sanitary arrangements.

Village Panchayats.

The Coorg Village Panchayats Act, 1927 (Act I of 1927) was in force in Coorg for the administration of village affairs by the villagers themselves. This Act was designed mainly to take up only the civic administration of the rural areas and was therefore found unsuitable to serve the needs of the present day. The Government of India, in the year 1954, convened a conference of State Ministers in charge of Local Self-Government at Simla to evolve a plan for the establishment of panchayats and endow them with wider powers and enlarged functions so as to enable them to function as basic units of self-government and planning. The conference after reviewing the working of the entire system in the various States, recommended, *inter alia,* that State Governments may take such action as may be necessary for the formation of panchayats to serve as effective basic units of self-government and as basic agencies of planning from below, as also for the development of village community and for the proper administration in all spheres of village life, judicial,

executive, economic and other functions at the village level and that for this purpose the entire population of the village should be represented as a community to be known as the Grama Sabha and that constructive local talent be drawn into them and that panchayats should function as executives of the Grama Sabha. The Central Government accepted these recommendations and requested the State Governments to take such action as may be necessary to implement them. Accordingly, an Act called the Coorg Panchayat Raj Act was enacted. This Act (Coorg Act IV of 1956) came into force in Coorg with effect from 1st July 1956 under the Chief Commissioner's Notification No. B-Law/223/R. Dis. 319/54, dated the 23rd June 1956.

The salient changes introduced under this Act related to the establishment of a Grama Sabha for every village or group of villages, constitution of Grama Panchayats as executive units of Grama Sabhas and investing them with wider powers and the formation of a Nyaya Panchayat for each circle comprising several Grama Sabha areas.

Present pattern of Panchayats and Local Boards.

Under the new Mysore Village Panchayats and Local Boards Act, 1959, the District Board has been abolished and in its place, a three-tier decentralised district administration has been organised, the Village Panchayats, the Taluk Boards and the District Development Council. The re-organised panchayats represent the social and political wing of rural life while the service co-operatives constitute the economic sphere of village democracy. Several provisions of the new Act are in accord with the recommendations of the Balawantrai Mehta Committee and also of the report of the working groups on panchayats. The Act provides for the establishment of a panchayat in every revenue village or a group of villages having a population of not less than 1,500 but not more than 10,000. The newly constituted panchayats consist of a membership of not less than eleven members and not more than nineteen members with reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Tribes in proportion to their population. There are two ladies in every panchayat. If a village has a population of more than 5,000, and the yearly estimated income is more than Rs. 10,000, the State Government have powers to notify it as a Town Panchayat. The new legislation also contains a provision which facilitates the conversion of the existing town municipality with a population of not more than 10,000 into a town panchayat.

All the plan schemes of the village in which a panchayat is established are to be duly executed by the panchayat administration. Construction, repairs and maintenance of village roads, drains, bunds, and bridges, public wells, ponds, tanks lighting, sanitation and conservancy, regulation of buildings shows, and shops and eating houses, maintenance of public

buildings, grant of lands and forest lands under the control of the panchayats, cattle pounds, allotment of places for storing manure and laying out village extensions are some of the duties entrusted to the care of the panchayats. They are also expected to carry out various other duties in the sphere of co-operation, promotion and development of economic conditions with special reference to agriculture, establishment and maintenance of dispensaries, maternity and child welfare centres and promotion and encouragement of cottage industries. The aim and object behind the panchayat raj is to galvanise the rural masses with a view to securing their active participation in the various reconstruction tasks and the social and economic regeneration of the people. The day-to-day administration of these panchayats is to be conducted by trained secretaries appointed by Government. A fair portion of land revenue, *viz.*, 30 per cent of the actual collections, is assigned to the panchayats.

In the place of the old District Board, three Taluk Development Boards have been established, one for each revenue taluk excluding the areas served by town municipalities. Taluks having a total population of a lakh and above are provided with a board consisting of nineteen members. In taluk areas where the total population is less than a lakh, the board consists of fifteen members. They are chosen on the basis of adult franchise. The revenue area is divided into a number of constituencies for purposes of election to these taluk boards. Seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Tribes in proportion to their population. The taluk boards will have to supervise the work of the panchayats and give them necessary guidance whenever sought for. Effective co-ordination is envisaged between the panchayats and the taluk board. Quite a sizable grant, to the extent of 20 per cent of the land revenue, has been assigned by Government to the taluk boards to enable them to carry on the duties entrusted to them. The entire local cess on land revenue and water rate collected in the area have been assigned to the boards Besides this, the taluk board has powers to levy a duty on transfer of immovable properties in the shape of an additional stamp duty and a tax on animals brought for sale. The Tahsildar in the taluks where there are no Community Development Blocks, and the Block Development Officer in taluks covered by the blocks will be the Chief Executive Officer of the board.

As stated above, the district has been divided into three Taluk Development Boards co-extensive with the three Blocks. There are 96 village panchayats in the three taluks, twenty-four in Mercara taluk, forty in Virajpet taluk and thirty-two in Somwarpet taluk. All the three Taluk Boards and almost all the village panchayats are functioning.

In order to scrutinise and approve the budgets of the Taluk Boards, and co-ordinate the work of all the Taluk Boards in the district, a District Development Council at the district level has been organised consisting of the Deputy Commissioner, members of Parliament and the State Legislature from that district, presidents of all the Taluk Boards in the district, district officers in charge of the development departments, a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes and a lady member.

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

IN the days prior to the commencement of British rule in Coorg, there does not seem to have been any definite type of education in Coorg. During the time of the early and the later Rajas, a few officers of the Government knew how to read and write and to maintain accounts of the dues to the State. These officers were put in charge of the Government correspondence and maintenance of the accounts, actual fighting on the field being left to the Karyakars or Commanders of armies who were all unlettered. The posts of the Munshis or correspondents, treasurers and accountants were hereditary. The officers or the officials who required some knowledge of drafting letters, writing out the orders of the Raja and of maintaining accounts of the income and expenditure of the State, acquired this knowledge from their fathers or uncles. It is said of the Haleri Rajas, who ruled in Coorg from the beginning of the 17th century to 1834, that they were in the habit of using force in getting men with some literary attainments, with their wives and children to the capital, in the course of their depredations outside Coorg and employing them in the palace or the Dewan's Office.

Historical Background

The early Rajas were conversant with Kannada, for all the inscriptions except two found in Coorg are in the Kannada script.

The Haleri Rajas knew how to read, speak and write Kannada, Hindustani and Persian. They appointed Brahmin Pandits and Persian Munshis to teach them and their children. Virarajendra Wodeyar who ruled from 1789 to 1809, kept in his court a Munshi, Faqueerodeen, to teach Persian to his children, besides keeping Brahmin Pandits. The Coorg Rajas used to converse in Hindustani with the British officers who visited Coorg and they wrote letters to the Governors and the Governors-General in Persian and Kannada. At the end of their letters they wrote their full names in English. The officers of the Rajas also talked in Hindustani to the British officers visiting Coorg.

The mass of the people (other than the officers of the State) were unlettered. Lieutenant Connor, in his Memoir of the

Codagu Survey written in 1817, says thus about the educational attainments of the people of Coorg : "Addicted to husbandry, their only education consists in acquiring a practical knowledge of it ; the numbers whose attainments are of a more exalted kind are almost limited to the officers of Government, and their acquirements are by no means of a comprehensive nature ; the body of the people as will be believed are wholly untaught, a circumstance naturally arising from the nature of their avocations, their want of instruction, however, scarcely leaves room for regret, as the usual results of ignorance, stupidity, inertness, or an addiction to vice, forms no part of their character ; they are unacquainted with anything relating to the surrounding countries, their sequestered situation raising barriers between them and their neighbours, by whom they are but little known". Thus, it is seen that no attempts were made either by the State or by private agencies to impart education to the people in the Rajas' times.

But after the establishment of the British rule, a beginning was made in the matter of providing education to the boys and girls of the district. Two Anglo-vernacular schools, one at Mercara and the other at Virajpet, and a Kannada school at Ponnampet in Kiggatnad were started in 1834. The monthly establishment charges for these three schools came to Rs. 90. General Fraser who took over Coorg as the Political Officer of the East India Company from the last Raja also left an endowment of Rs. 300 in the hands of a merchant at Kushalnagar (called Fraserpet in his name till a few years ago) to run a school there, paying three rupees a month out of the interest of the endowment, to a local school master as his salary. In 1840, two teachers were appointed to the Mercara English School on Rs. 17-8-0 a month. In 1842, the Anglo-vernacular school started at Virajpet in 1834 by the British Government was closed as all the pupils who were Roman Catholics left the Government school to join the school opened by the Roman Catholic parish at Virajpet. The money saved by the closing of the Government Anglo-vernacular school was appropriated for five Kannada schools.

In 1843, it was proposed to redistribute the educational grant in such a way as to provide 11 Kannada schools at the reduced rate of Rs. 5 each a month, in addition to the Anglo-vernacular school at Mercara. In about 1844, 21 Kannada schools were established in the different nads. In 1845, a Hindustani teacher was appointed in the English school at Mercara.

Such was the state of affairs upto the end of 1854, when the Rev. Dr. Moegling of the Basel Mission offered to superintend the schools and open superior ones, if furnished with funds by Government. The Kannada schools so far established, he

represented, were run in the Hindu style and had no superintendence, while the English school at Mercara had never been in a state of efficiency. "The Coorgs," wrote Dr. Moegling, "have been taught nothing and have learned nothing. The consequence is that during these last twenty years, there has been no moral and intellectual improvement, and their superstitions have rather gained in strength than declined. Their natural capacities are equal, if not superior, to those of many other races of India, but their ignorance is extreme. There is probably not a single Coorg who can lay claim even to a low degree of what passes for education now in the country."

In 1855, Dr. Moegling was permitted by Sir Mark Cubbon, Commissioner for the affairs of Coorg, to assume control of the Mercara English School. But the Coorg officials did not take kindly to the school, and only one Coorg youth (who eventually rose to a high position in the country) was courageous enough to brave the opposition and displeasure of the headmen and joined the school.

In 1857, the scheme proposed by the Hon'ble Mr. Devereux, Judicial Commissioner, embracing the requirements of both Mysore and Coorg received the sanction of the Governor-General in Council and from this measure may be dated the commencement of any regular system of education in Coorg. According to this scheme, one school in each of the then existing six taluks of Coorg was established.

When this scheme came to be implemented, there were in existence the Anglo-vernacular school at Mercara and twenty Government schools in the several nads. The Mercara English school was reorganised as a superior English school in 1855 and placed in charge of Dr. Moegling. This was the humble beginning of the former Central High School or the present Government Higher Secondary School of Mercara, which has sent out of its portals thousands of students who have later distinguished themselves in public service in the past one hundred years and more. Dr. Moegling was its first headmaster and he was succeeded by Reverend G. Richter in May 1856. Dr. Moegling, however, continued his connection with the school in his capacity as the Principal till December 1860, when he left for Germany. Rev. G. Richter was then made the Principal and from the year 1861 a new era began in the educational affairs of Coorg. The Reverend Richter undertook to improve the condition of the vernacular schools by training the teachers and granting to such as qualified, a salary of Rs. 7 per month. This measure gave an impetus to the cause of education in Coorg.

European planters had opened coffee estates in Coorg by this time and the people of Coorg and particularly the Coorgs who

began to copy the European mode of living and dress felt the necessity of acquiring a knowledge of English, in order to have a better contact with the planters. Therefore, the Coorg headmen presented a petition to Government through the Superintendent of Coorg. The following extract from the petition is of interest.

"Through the noble generosity of the late lamented Chief Commissioner, General Sir Mark Cubbon, K.C.B., the blessing of education has been extended to us six years ago, though we did not appreciate it then, as we do now. Our minds were darkened and full of prejudices as to its possible effect; but the influence of the established English school at Mercara, its steady progress and the temperate, judicious and devoted manner in which it has been carried on for the last six years have disarmed all our fears and we earnestly desire that all our children should be benefited by the instruction there given. The great influx of European settlers into our country makes the education of our children appear doubly necessary to our minds since our own ignorance renders our intercourse with the planters most difficult, unsatisfactory and disadvantageous to us". The Coorg headmen also offered to build a boarding house for about one hundred boys by public contributions.

In forwarding this petition to the Government of India, Mr. Bowring observed: "There is a genuineness of expression about this address that I feel assured will secure the hearty approval of the Government of India. It has probably rarely happened in India that a whole race has come forward in this manner, putting aside traditional prejudices to meet half way the earnest wish of their rulers that they should educate themselves and it is especially remarkable among mountaineers in this country as the hill races are generally far below those of the plains in their acquisition of knowledge." Needless to say that these proposals were sanctioned by the Governor-General in January 1863.

The building of the central school sanctioned on the Coorg petition was completed in 1870, but the school itself began functioning in 1869 before the full completion of the building. In 1870, there were 176 pupils in all, of whom 12 were girls. Among these 176 pupils, there were 93 Coorgs, 14 Christians, 28 Muslims, three Parsees and the rest were Brahmins and other Hindus. A boarding house for boys was also constructed in the same premises. The new building of the central school was built on the site of the ruins of the guest house built by Doddavirarajendra for the reception of his European visitors. But, though the Coorgs in their first flush of enthusiasm promised to send their children to the boarding house at Mercara for their education in the central

school, their enthusiasm cooled down when the central school and boarding house buildings were actually completed.

It was therefore resolved to establish an Anglo-vernacular school in each of the taluks to act as feeders to the central school. Anglo-vernacular schools were started at Virajpet in Yedenalknad, at Hudikeri in Kiggatnad, at Kushalnagar in Nanjarajapatna taluk and at Napoklu in Padinalknad in 1870-71. The number of Kannada schools which, since the improvement of their condition, had gained in popularity, had increased to 27. In 1871, the Government of India proposed to introduce a more extended scheme to be partially supported by an educational cess. The Coorg headmen proposed a revival of the old plough tax instead of the educational cess. The plough tax yielded Rs. 5,200 a year.

The Government educational institutions in Coorg in 1875-76 comprised the Mercara Central School, with Kannada and Hindustani branches attached, containing altogether 348 pupils, of whom 230 were Coorgs; four taluk Anglo-vernacular schools, with 117 pupils; 36 Nad schools (34 Kannada and two Hindustani), containing 1,010 pupils, of whom 1,028 were Coorg boys and 95 Coorg girls; and a Normal School (training school for teachers) with six students. In the Boys' Boarding House connected with the Central school there were 91 boarders. Among the private institutions, two aided schools contained 55 boys and 11 girls, while the unaided schools numbered 39 with 569 pupils. Adding all together, there were 84 schools in the district with 2,730 pupils.

The Government primary schools gave instruction in reading, writing and arithmetic, a great deal of time being spent in learning by rote the multiplication tables. Writing was, as elsewhere, taught in close connection with reading, the pupil beginning his writing lessons when he commenced the alphabet. The alphabet was learnt by writing with the finger on sand. Later, the pupil began to write with a pencil on a small black board (halage). After the pupils learnt to read the printed text book containing prose and poetry lessons, they were made to read the letters and documents written by hand. In those days, people writing in Kannada were writing in a chainlike way, each letter being connected to the next letter. Therefore it was difficult for any person to read a hand-written letter, promissory note or document without prior practice in deciphering the letters. Special attention was given to make the pupils write a good hand and to avoid making mistakes while writing. Schools were single-teacher schools till the last but one decade of the last century. After that, the number of teachers in the schools was increased in keeping with the increase in the strength of pupils.

In the unaided private elementary schools, though instruction was given in reading, writing and arithmetic, it was neither continuous nor systematic. The teachers of these schools had no training and were not paid any salary as such. They were paid in kind by the pupils; during festivals like Yugadi and Navaratri, the teacher used to take his pupils to the surrounding villages to make collections of money and grain. His young charges were taught song and dance for display during these occasions. In the class room, strict discipline was maintained, punishments for default being often cruel and sometimes inhuman.

Muslim children were taught to read the Koran in the mosques.

It has been stated earlier that the Government revived the old plough tax instead of the educational cess to support primary education. But the receipts from the plough tax were found insufficient and so, the Government gave a grant equal to half the amount of the plough tax. Eventually, some of the Government schools were converted into municipal schools and the remaining were supported by Imperial revenues, fees being levied in all from 1886.

Inspection of primary schools.—The headmaster of the central school at Mercara who had also been designated as the Inspector of Vernacular Schools had been inspecting vernacular schools with the assistance of a Sub-Deputy Inspector. In 1883, he also became the Inspector of the Western Circle of the Madras Presidency. From 1890, the Inspectress of girls' schools in the western circle also inspected a few girls' schools in Coorg. The control of education, vested in the Coorg Government, was exercised through the Director of Public Instruction in Madras. There were transfers of teachers from South Kanara to Coorg and from Coorg to South Kanara, though the two districts were under two different administrative bodies. This arrangement for the inspection of the Coorg schools continued till 1924. In 1901, primary education was placed under the newly constituted District Board and in 1905, the supervision of all the schools in Coorg was transferred to the Inspector of Schools of the VI Circle with headquarters at Calicut.

In 1903-04, there were 88 public and 33 private institutions attended in all by 4,599 pupils, of whom 3,632 were boys and 967 girls. Boys formed 15.7 per cent of the male population of the school-going age and girls 4.5 per cent of the female population of that age.

As stated above, in 1901 primary education was placed under the newly constituted District Board, but the municipalities of Mercara and Virajpet had their own primary schools. The

Government also established model primary schools in the then taluk centres of Mercara, Virajpet, Ponnampet, Napoklu and Somwarpet. Primary schools for girls under women teachers were started at this time by the Government in many important villages. But where girls' schools had not been opened, girls of all communities freely attended the boys' schools.

In 1904, seven primary schools were opened for Harijans who were then known as 'Panchamas', in places where the Harijans were living in good numbers. Schools for Harijans increased in number till 1920. In the beginning, non-Harijan teachers were appointed in these schools, but later, Harijan young men qualified themselves as teachers. By about 1921, with the spread of general education among the people, the objection to Harijan pupils studying with caste Hindus had begun to disappear. As a result, the Government gradually closed the 'Panchama' schools. Generally speaking, in Coorg, the Harijans, most of whom were the descendants of the praedial slaves of the Rajas, their Dewans and other headmen, were treated well and untouchability as such was not rigidly observed.

Kannada was the language taught in the primary schools till 1910. In that year, English was introduced as a compulsory language in most primary schools, it being taught from III Standard.

There were two schools in Coorg between the last decade of the 19th century and the beginning of this century preparing pupils for higher than the primary stage. The first was the Mercara Central School. This was a lower secondary school till 1883 The pupils who passed out of this school went to Mangalore, Mysore or Bangalore to study for the Madras University Matriculation examination. In 1885, for the first time, the Mercara Central School presented students for the Madras University Matriculation. It may be incidentally mentioned here that the Madras University was the only university in the South in those days. In 1888, a graduate from Cambridge was appointed as headmaster of the upgraded Mercara Central School. From that time upto 1924, the headmasters of the Central High School were Europeans. The post of the headmaster of the Central High School was included in the I.E.S. cadre from about 1010. As long as the European headmasters continued in Mercara, they were officers of the Indian Educational Service.

The other lower secondary school was that at Virajpet. This school which was started in 1871 as an Anglo-vernacular school, became a lower secondary school some time after 1880. This continued as a lower secondary school till 1922, when it was converted into a high school.

In 1909, the sisters of the French Catholic Mission opened a high school for girls at Mercara. As a boarding house was attached to this school, girls from all parts of Coorg sought admission to this high school and stayed in the school hostel.

Between 1924 and 1930, the Government model primary schools at Somwarpet, Napoklu and Ponnampet were upgraded as higher elementary schools preparing the pupils for the common Entrance examination equivalent to III form examination. Gradually, District Board and aided primary schools were also converted into higher elementary schools.

Growth of literacy through the decades.

Before coming to the actual percentage of literacy in the district, it is worthwhile studying the trends in earlier years from the beginning of this century. According to the census returns, a person was defined as literate if he could write a letter in any language and be able to read the reply to it or any other simple letter.

The number of literates in Coorg is first mentioned in the census report of 1901. From that year onwards the number of literates has been given in every decennial census report. In the statement given below, the total population of the district and the number of literates from 1901 to 1961 are given.

Year		*Total Population*	*Number of literates per 10,000*	
			Men	*Women*
1901	..	180,607	1,277	157
1911	..	174,976	1,570	279
1921	..	163,838	1,895	496
1931	..	163,327	2,196	748
1941	..	168,726	2,688	1,275
1951	..	229,405	3,404	1,804
1961	..	322,829	4,328	2,809

It is seen from the above statement that literacy has shown a steady increase from decade to decade. The people of Coorg had eagerly taken to education from almost the beginning of the British administration in Coorg and the officers of the Government had encouraged the education of the younger generation by gradually opening more and more schools. As stated earlier, the District Board, which took over the management of primary education in the rural areas in 1901, opened schools in the populous villages throughout Coorg. The attainment of independence in 1947 and the transfer of political power to the people further accelerated the progress of education in Coorg. It was the policy of the popular Ministry of the old Coorg State for the four years

it functioned, to start single-teacher feeder schools within a radius of a mile and a half of the home of every child and to start a middle school with the primary classes attached to it within a radius of three miles. During its short regime, a large number of feeder schools was opened and many existing primary schools were upgraded into middle schools. The management of the primary and middle schools was taken over from the District Board in 1953 and middle school education was made free. During this time, a large number of adult education classes was opened in all parts of Coorg, which measure also helped to step up the percentage of literacy in Coorg. The increase in the percentage of literacy between 1951 and 1961 has been very remarkable for the above reasons.

When compared to the other districts of the State, the literacy in Coorg, according to the 1961 census, has been the highest, being 36.2 per cent, whereas the State percentage is 25.4. Male literacy in Coorg is 43.4 per cent. In this respect, Coorg takes the third place, the first two being Dharwar and Bangalore districts with 47.0 per cent, and 44.9 per cent respectively. In regard to female literacy, Coorg stands first with its 28.0 per cent, while South Kanara and Bangalore come second and third with 24.0 per cent and 23.2 per cent, respectively. The State percentages for male and female literacy are 36.0 per cent and 14.2 per cent respectively. The actual number of literate males is 75,378 and that of the female literates is 41,696, the total for both sexes being 117,074; the population of the district is 173,328 men and 149,491 women. The literacy in Coorg in 1951 was 27.2 per cent, 62,430 persons (42,658 men and 19,772 women) being literate out of the total population of 229,405. In the inter-censal period from 1951 to 1961, there has been an increase by nine per cent in the total literacy in Coorg.

Literacy both in the rural areas and the urban areas in Coorg has recorded an increase as can be seen in the following statements of literacy given for the taluks and the towns separately.

LITERACY IN THE TALUKS.

Taluk		*Literates in 1951*		*Percentage of literates*
	Men	*Women*	*Total*	
Mercara ..	12,655	7,217	19,872	34.9
Virajpet ..	20,991	10,203	31,194	30.5
Somwarpet ..	9,012	2,352	11,364	16.2
Coorg District ..	42,658	19,772	62,430	27.2

Taluk		*Literates in 1961*			*Percentage of literates*
		Men	*Women*	*Total*	
Mercara	..	22,907	14,153	37,060	46.5
Virajpet	..	30,876	18,337	49,213	36.8
Somwarpet	..	21,595	9,206	30,801	28.1
Coorg District	..	75,378	41,696	117,074	36.9

In the inter-censal period from 1951 to 1961, there has been an increase of literates in every taluk, the highest being in Somwarpet taluk by 11.9 per cent and the next being in Mercara taluk, by 11.7 per cent. In Virajpet taluk, the increase has been only by 6.3 per cent. The number of literates in towns is given in the following table :—

LITERACY IN TOWNS.

Town		*Literates in 1951*			*Percentage of literates*
		Men	*Women*	*Total*	
Mercara	..	3,437	1,939	5,376	53.1
Somwarpet	..	918	123	1,041	34.1
Hebbale	..	263	73	336	15.8
Kodlipet	..	248	100	348	28.4
Kushalnagar	..	428	193	621	33.1
Sanivarasanthe	..	....	(Not available)		...
Suntikoppa	..	512	105	617	16.4
Virajpet	..	2,208	1,137	3,345	54.5
Gonikoppal	..	506	149	655	38.3
Ponnampet	.	521	212	733	37.6
Coorg District Urban		9,041	4,031	13,072	41.0

Town		*Literates in 1961*			*Percentage of literates*
		Men	*Women*	*Total*	
Mercara	.	5,647	3,483	9,130	63.17
Somwarpet	.	1,549	862	2,411	46.93
Hebbale	.	463	124	587	25.25
Kodlipet	..	550	300	850	50.99
Kushalnagar	..	965	513	1,478	50.93
Sanivarasanthe	..	398	207	605	43.49
Suntikoppa	..	483	183	666	51.09
Virajpet	..	2,695	1,784	4,479	55.04
Gonikoppal	..	929	338	1,267	46.69
Ponnampet	..	857	459	1,316	59.21
Coorg District Urban		14,536	8,253	22,789	[illegible]

As per this table, literacy in the Notified Areas (small towns with elected administrative bodies) has shown a slightly larger increase than that in the two municipalities of Mercara and Virajpet.

If the number of literates in the rural areas alone is considered, there also is seen an increase, as is evident from the table given below :—

	1951			1961		
	Men	*Women*	*Total*	*Men*	*Women*	*Total*
Coorg District rural (excluding Notified Areas).	33,617	15,741	49,358	60,842	33,443	94,285

The percentage of increase between 1951 and 1961 in the number of literates in the rural areas of Coorg has been phenomenal, being about 90 per cent.

Educational Standards.

Educational standards according to the 1951 census figures are as follows. Figures for 1961 are not yet available.

Educational Standards		Persons	Men	Women
Literate	..	53,345	35,885	17,400
Middle School	..	6,228	4,438	1,790
Matriculate or S.S.L.C. Higher Secondary.	..	2,174	1,736	438
Intermediate in Arts or Science		255	215	40
Degrees or Diplomas				
Graduate in Arts or Science	..	124	107	17
Post-Graduates in Arts or Science.	..	24	23	1
Teaching	..	131	113	18
Engineering	..	20	20	..
Agriculture	..	12	12	..
Veterinary	..	2	2	..
Commerce	..	12	12	..
Legal	..	35	35	..
Medical	..	33	28	5
Others	..	35	32	3
Total	..	62,430	42,658	19,772

Spread of education among women.

Women have been very forward in education in Coorg. All the schools in Coorg, except two privately managed high schools, are co-educational schools. Large number of girls attend schools, both in the rural and urban areas. Therefore, in female literacy, as stated earlier, Coorg has stood first in Mysore State, the percentage of literacy being 28.1 per cent; 41,696 women out of the total female population of 149,491 are literates.

Education among Backward Classes.

According to the 1951 census, there were 69,422 people belonging to the Backward Classes. Their number as per the 1961 census is not yet available. In addition to the amenities provided for the education of students of all communities, pupils belonging to the Backward Classes are awarded Backward Community Scholarships tenable in the middle schools and the high schools. In 1963-64, 24 high school students and 4 middle school students were each awarded lumpsum scholarships of Rs. 75 and Rs. 50 per annum respectively. During the same year, scholarships equivalent to examination fees were introduced for the benefit of students of the Backward Classes who were studying in the colleges. A sum of Rs. 2,000 was sanctioned for these scholarships.

Grant-in-aid to hostels.

Grants were given to general hostels to meet the boarding charges of very poor children belonging to the Backward communities. In this scheme, 14 students were benefited in the Government hostel at Mercara and 11 students were benefited in the Cauvery Bhakthajana Sangha hostel at Virajpet.

The money for the Backward Community scholarships and the grants to general hostels was given by the Social Welfare Department. The total allotment for the welfare of the Backward Community school-going children for the year 1963-64 was Rs. 6,400. Out of this amount Rs. 4,759 were spent in the year 1963-64.

Education among the Scheduled Castes.

As per the census of 1951, the number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes was 25,690. In the 1961 census, their number increased to 30,610. The social and economic condition of the Scheduled Castes is far from satisfactory. Most of them are either agricultural labourers or plantation labourers. Educationally they are very backward, with a few matriculates or S.S.L.C.s and only three graduates among them. Government are making all possible efforts to encourage the spread of education among these castes. Five hostels for boys of the Scheduled Castes were opened at Mercara, Somwarpet, Kushalnagar, Virajpet and Ponnampet in 1961-62 and they are being continued; one hundred and eighty-five students were provided with free boarding and lodging facilities in 1963-64. Library books and sports goods also were supplied at Government cost to these hostels. Two

hostels for girls of the Scheduled Castes which were started in 1961-62 at Mercara and Ponnampet are being continued (1964-65); seventy girl students are provided with free boarding and lodging in these hostels. These hostels also are provided with library books and sports articles. Non-resident pupils are given a free supply of books, slates and writing materials. Besides this, twenty-nine high school students and thirty-nine middle school students who were not residing in the Harijan hostels were each awarded pre-matric scholarships at the rate of Rs. 75 and Rs. 50, respectively, in the year 1963-64.

Harijan Women Welfare Centres.

Five Harijan Women's Welfare Centres at Hebbale, Kushalnagar, Bilugunda, Balele and Chennanakote are conducting nursery or pre-primary schools for the children of the Scheduled Castes. In 1963-64, one hundred and fifty children below six years of age were given mid-day meals, taught alphabets, simple arithmetic and the singing of nursery songs in these schools.

Roughly, about 3,000 pupils study in different categories of schools—and this number works up to about ten per cent of the total of the Scheduled Caste population in Coorg as per the 1961 census.

Education among the Scheduled Tribes.

In the 1961 census, 27,102 persons have been enumerated as belonging to the Scheduled Tribes. But the Social Welfare Department, Coorg, have stated in their annual administration report for the year 1963-64 that more than 35,000 tribals of different groups are living in the dense forest areas of Coorg. Economically and educationally they are more backward than the Scheduled Castes. Therefore, both the State and the Central Governments jointly have introduced several schemes for their upliftment.

In order to provide for the education of the pupils of the Scheduled Tribes, three ashram schools, which were opened at Basavanahalli and Adinadoor in Somwarpet taluk and at Begoor in Virajpet taluk in 1961-62, are being continued. In these schools, one hundred and forty children of Scheduled Tribes were provided with free food, clothes, slates, books and medical aid. Two hostels at Kutta and Kalhalla in Virajpet taluk are being run for the tribal children. In these two hostels forty and sixty children, respectively, were given free boarding and lodging in 1963-64. These children attended the local Government primary schools. In the same year, two hundred and fifty children were given clothes and two hundred and fifty other school-going children were supplied with slates, books and pencils. One high school student was awarded an annual scholarship of Rs. 100, and eighteen students in the middle schools were awarded a scholarship of Rs. 50 each per annum.

Scheduled Tribes Women Welfare Centres.

Three Scheduled Tribes women's welfare centres at Basavanahalli and Adinadoor in Somwarpet taluk and at Siddapur—Hadlu in Virajpet taluk conduct nursery classes for the tribal children; one hundred and twenty tribal children below 5 years of age were taught in these welfare centres. They were also given mid-day meals and clothes in the year 1963-64. Tribal girls and a few tribal women were also given instruction in tailoring.

In the year 1963-64, three additional women's welfare centres were opened in the tribal colonies at Kanoor, Reshme-Hadlu and Kuruchi. In these welfare centres, twenty-five tribal children of six years of age and below were given pre-primary education, clothes, and mid-day meals.

Tribal *Ad-hoc* Block.

In the year 1963-64, the Government of India sanctioned a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs for the "Tribal *Ad-hoc* Block" scheme at Nagarahole in Virajpet taluk to be implemented by the end of the III Five-Year Plan period. Under this scheme three Ashram schools at Channangi-Basavanahalli, Nagarhole and Gonigadde were started in 1963-64 for the tribal children; seventy-five children were given free boarding, lodging and education in these schools. Construction of two hostel buildings was taken up at Channangi-Basavanahalli and Kalhalla for the tribal children. In the same year, construction of two school buildings was begun in the colonies at Kanoor and Channangi-Basavanahalli under the same scheme; five hundred children studying in thirteen primary schools were served with mid-day meals and three hundred school-going children were given clothes in this tribal block.

General Education

Pre-primary Education.

Pre-primary or nursery education in the district is conducted mostly under the auspices of the mahila samajas. The general policy of Government in this respect is one of encouragement and assistance rather than of direct initiative. Nine nursery classes are conducted by the co-operative mahila samajas and twenty nursery classes are run by the mahila samajas started by the Social Welfare Board, a non-official organisation with women as office-bearers. The teachers of the nursery classes run under the auspices of the co-operative mahila samajas are paid their salaries from the grant-in-aid given by the Education department. The classes run by the mahila samajas organised by the Social Welfare Board are given grants by the Board, to meet the salaries of the nursery school teachers. Grants are given by both the Education department and the Social Welfare Board annually for the purchase of toys and teaching equipment.

In 1960, the Education department opened in Coorg nursery classes as pre-primary preparatory classes in seven senior basic or middle schools situated in places where mahila samajas and the nursery classes run under their auspices did not exist. These nursery classes are put in charge of the Kindergarten-trained women teachers, under the headmaster of the senior basic schools. As stated in connection with the spread of education among the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, women's welfare centres for these two classes of people run nursery schools for the benefit of their children. The Government bears the expenditure incurred on these women's welfare centres and the nursery schools conducted by them.

About 2,000 children between the ages of three and five and a half attended the nursery schools in 1962-63. Children of all communities are admitted and the monthly fee charged is nominal, being 25 paise. The nursery classes are conducted in both the urban and rural areas in all parts of the district.

Primary Education.

The development of primary or elementary education in Coorg from the beginning of the British rule in 1834 up to about the end of the third decade of this century has already been dealt with. In 1931, there were 108 primary schools with 8,908 pupils on their rolls. These schools were teaching Kannada, arithmetic, history and geography of India, nature study and civics. English was taught from the III Standard onwards. Handicrafts like basket-weaving from a kind of grass-like weed grown in the fields (ತೆಂಡ) and making of net-bags and ropes were also taught. In addition to these schools conforming to the departmental standards, there were 17 primary schools with 405 pupils not conforming to the departmental standards.

Between 1931 and 1941, all the bigger District Board primary schools were upgraded into middle schools. The villagers took the initiative and built new school buildings or added rooms to the existing buildings and supplied furniture, and the District Board appointed teachers. During this decade, the District Board started primary schools in the villages where previously unaided private schools were catering to the educational needs of the children. In 1941, there were 118 boys' schools with 11,789 pupils and two girls' schools with 96 girls on their rolls. Among these 120 schools, about twenty-five were higher elementary schools with standards from I to VIII.

In 1946-47, the number of primary and middle schools which were then called higher elementary schools was as follows :—

1946–47.

	Government	*District Board and Municipalities*	*Private aided*	*Private unaided*	*Total*
Primary Schools	3	96	..	20	119
Higher Elementary Schools (Middle Schools).	3	25	..	..	28
				Total ..	147

With effect from 1st January 1947, the scales of pay of teachers in Government institutions were raised as recommended by the Central Pay Commission. But the District Board could not grant the same scales of pay to the teachers working in the Board schools as its finances could not permit its doing so, and this difference in the salary and allowances of teachers caused discontent amongst the District Board teachers.

The number of all types of schools went on increasing year after year and in 1950-51 it stood as follows:—

1950–51.

	Government	*District Board*	*Municipalities*	*Private aided*	*Private unaided*	*Total*
Primary Schools	1	84	4	17	5	111
Higher Elementary Schools.	..	38	..	3	..	41
					Total	152

It may be clarified here that all the higher elementary schools and the five Government high schools had the primary school classes and the primary and the middle school classes included in them, respectively. Therefore, the strength in the higher elementary schools and the high schools for 1950-51 included the number of pupils from I Standard to VIII Standard in the case of higher elementary schools and from I Standard to VI Form in the case of high schools. During the year 1950-51, 7,310 boys and 4,554 girls were in the middle schools, 3,238 boys and 1,933 girls were in the 62 complete primary schools, 554 boys and 320 girls in the grant-in-aid single teacher primary schools and 45 boys and 25 girls in the Government forest school for the Scheduled Tribes.

The adoption of the Republican Constitution for India in 1950 and the consequent inauguration of the ministerial rule in the then Part 'C' State of Coorg in 1952, gave a fillip to the cause of education in Coorg. In 1953, the popular Government laid down a policy of locating schools in such a way that no child may have to walk—

(a) more than 1½ miles to reach a feeder school,
(b) more than 2½ miles for a primary school, and
(c) more than 3½ miles for a middle school.

With that policy in view, new schools were being sanctioned. Standard plans and estimates were prepared for the construction of the three types of schools. Village committees were formed and induced to construct school buildings according to the plans and estimates supplied by the Government, with 50 per cent Government aid.

It may be mentioned here that the feeder schools are single-teacher schools with the first three standards. In these schools, importance was given to teach the three R's though handicrafts and drill were also given attention. Primary schools had classes from I to V Standards. In addition to reading, writing and arithmetic, nature study, Indian historical stories and civics, local history and local geography were taught in the III and IV Standards. In V Standard, reading and writing, arithmetic, social studies and general science were taught. After 1950, English was begun only in V Standard. It was not an examination subject. Till a few years ago there was a public examination conducted by the District Educational Officer for the V Standard pupils.

Higher elementary schools or middle schools had standards from I to VIII. There were no separate middle schools or higher elementary schools in Coorg which had only the middle school classes. There was a common syllabus for the higher elementary schools run by the District Board and the middle schools which were attached to the Government high schools. In these schools, in addition to the regional language, Kannada, which was the medium of instruction, English and Hindi were taught compulsorily from the VI Standard or I Form onwards. The other subjects taught were mathematics, general science and social studies. These and the language subjects were examination subjects. At the end of the higher elementary course or middle school course, there was a public examination called the Common Entrance examination. Non-examination subjects till about the time of the conversion of these schools into basic schools were citizenship, drawing and physical training. The curriculum of studies and the syllabi of the Madras Education Department were followed in Coorg. In so far as the middle or higher elementary schools were

concerned, the text-books which were in use in the neighbouring Kannada district of South Kanara were prescribed by the Coorg Text Book Committee. Classes in the higher elementary schools were called standards, while the upper three classes of the middle school education stage in the high schools were called Forms I, II and III.

It has been said earlier that the popular Government of Coorg gave encouragement to the starting of more schools in the rural parts by the people, with Government aid. In April 1953, the Government took over all the District Board schools, both primary and higher elementary, and gave the teachers the benefit of the pay scales which were given to the teachers of the middle and primary schools under the direct control of the Government. New buildings were put up wherever necessary or old buildings were extended or improved by the Government. The same year, the Government declared that education up to the end of the middle school course shall be free for all, thereby giving scope for every child above five years of age to get free education up to that stage; primary education had become free after 1920.

Introduction of Basic Education.

In 1953, when the first batch of trained teachers was available from the basic training school at Virajpet, thirteen middle schools and twenty-one primary schools were converted as senior basic and junior basic schools respectively with agriculture as the basic craft. These schools were in the Somwarpet taluk which was selected for intensive educational development and for that reason was referred to as "Selected Area". Furniture, garden implements and fence materials were supplied to these schools. Lands for wet cultivation for the senior basic schools and for vegetable gardening for the junior basic schools were made available by the Government. Every senior basic school was provided with an extra teacher, specially trained in craft. In 1954-55, the then existing thirty-five middle schools and forty-six primary schools, in all eighty-one schools, located outside the selected area of Somwarpet taluk were converted into senior basic and junior basic schools, respectively. In the two senior basic schools of Ponnampet Nad in South Coorg, cane and willow craft were introduced instead of agriculture. The middle school which formed one section of the then Central High School, Mercara, was converted into an urban basic school, with house building as basic craft.

In 1956, the middle school and the primary school sections of the five Government high schools of Coorg were separated from the high school section and put under the independent control of the headmasters of the secondary grade cadre. This change was made to ensure more frequent inspections by the Deputy Inspectors of Schools. The high schools managed by the Christian missionary societies at Mercara and Virajpet had

primary and middle schools sections attached to them under one management.

In November 1956, Coorg became an integral part of the New Mysore State as a result of the States' Reorganisation. As the educational systems of the five integrating areas of the new State differed from one another, the Government of Mysore appointed a committee called "The Educational Integration Advisory Committee" in December 1956 to evolve a common pattern of education for the new State. This committee decided on a 7-year integrated primary (basic pattern) education course and the curriculum committee and the various syllabus sub-committees finished the work assigned to them in 1958. The Government approved the finalised syllabus in November 1958. This syllabus, common to all the primary schools in the State, was introduced in Standards I and II commencing from the academic year 1959-60, in Standards III and IV from the academic year 1960-61, in Standards V and VI from the academic year 1961-62 and in Standard VII from the academic year 1962-63. The pupils who pass the VII Standard (new pattern examination) are admitted to VIII Standard in the high schools.

As a result of the introduction of the seven years' integrated primary course, the former basic schools with five standards are being upgraded as new type middle schools with VII Standards.

The revised syllabus of studies for Standards I to VII is as follows :—

STANDARDS I AND II.

(1) Language	.	14 periods
(2) General Mathematics	.	6 periods
(3) General Science	..	4 periods
(4) Social Studies	..	4 periods
(5) Arts and Crafts	..	13 periods
(6) Practical Work	..	8 periods
(7) Physical Education	.	6 periods

In Standards I and II, the periods are of half an hour duration each. The total number of periods of work is 55 per week.

STANDARDS III AND IV

The subjects are the same as for Standards I and II. In Coorg, on account of the fact that Kannada is the regional language and there is no script for the Kodava or Tulu dialects, this is the only language taught in the Standards I to IV. It is also the medium of instruction for other subjects.

In Standards III and IV the periods are of 40 minutes' duration each. The total number of periods per week is 45.

STANDARDS V, VI AND VII

English is made compulsory from V Standard with six periods in the week and Hindi is taught from VI Standard with three periods in the week. The other subjects are the same as for Standards III and IV. The number of periods per week and the duration of each period are the same as for III and IV Standards.

The erstwhile Government of Coorg had encouraged the starting of many single teacher schools with the first three standards by private agencies, by giving liberal grants for the construction of the school buildings and the salary of the teachers. These schools were called feeder schools. These feeder schools were taken over by the Government in 1961-62 and were called the junior primary schools. These schools are of the non-basic pattern.

The following tables will indicate the number of the different types of educational institutions, the number of pupils with the number of boys and girls shown separately and the number of teachers, men and women.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

1953–54.

Management		*Number of Schools*	*Strength Boys and Girls*
Government	..	77	5806
Municipality	..	4	561
Aided	..	38	2148
Total	..	119	8515

1954–55.

Management		*Number of Schools*	*Strength Boys and Girls*
Government	..	70	6004
Municipality	..	4	637
Aided	..	86	4247
Total	..	160	10888

1955–56.

Management		*Number of Schools*	*Strength Boys and Girls*
Government	..	70	6264
Municipality	..	4	685
Aided	..	92	5029
Total	..	166	11978

1956–57.

Management		*Number of Schools*	*Number of Boys*	*Number of Girls*	*Total*
Government	..	81	4386	3285	7671
Municipality	..	5	553	441	994
Aided	..	106	2909	2454	5363
Total	..	192	7848	6180	14,028

1957-58.

Management		*Number of Schools*	*Number of Boys*	*Number of Girls*	*Total*
Government	..	85	4673	3598	8271
Municipality	..	5	571	453	1024
Aided	..	111	3040	2516	5556
Total	..	201	8284	6567	14851

1958–59.

Government ..	95	4561	3958	8519
Municipality ..	5	615	469	1084
Aided ..	117	3441	2767	6208
Total ..	217	8617	7194	15811

1959–60.

Government ..	125	6203	4800	11003
Municipality ..	5	652	518	1170
Aided ..	97	2891	2237	5128
Total ..	227	9746	7555	17301

1960–61.

Government ..	163	7411	5779	13190
Municipality ..	5	712	590	1302
Aided ..	76	1874	1533	3407
Total ..	244	9997	7902	17899

1961–62.

Government ..	242	8686	7071	15757
Municipality ..	5	726	587	1313
Aided ..	3	119	88	207
Total ..	250	9531	7746	17277

1963–64.

Government ..	202	8107	6834	14941
Municipality ..	5	669	477	1146
Aided ..	7	1891	1892	3783
Total ..	214	10667	9203	19870

As many primary schools have been upgraded into senior basic schools since 1962, their number has fallen from what it was in 1961-62.

Out of the two hundred and fourteen primary schools in Coorg, there were ten Urdu, three Malayalam and three Tamil Government primary schools in the school year 1963-64

PRIMARY SCHOOLS—TALUKWISE

NUMBER OF TEACHERS—STRENGTH OF SCHOOLS.

Taluks	*Number of Schools*	*Strength*		*Teachers*		*Total* No. *of Teachers*
		Boys	*Girls*	*Men*	*Women*	
1956-57						
Mercara ..	60	2298	1877	96	29	125
Somwarpet ..	66	2380	1717	127	6	133
Virajpet ..	66	3170	2536	137	23	160
Total ..	192	7848	6120	360	58	418
1957-58						
Mercara ..	64	2584	2136	71	33	104
Somwarpet ..	68	2537	1815	101	3	104
Virajpet ..	69	3163	2616	101	19	120
Total ..	201	8284	6567	273	55	328
1958-59						
Mercara ..	69	2329	2272	100	43	143
Somwarpet ..	74	2999	2155	131	17	148
Virajpet ..	74	3289	2767	145	26	171
Total ..	217	8617	7194	376	86	462
1959-60						
Mercara ..	69	2891	2291	101	38	139
Somwarpet ..	78	3278	2395	141	9	150
Virajpet ..	80	3577	2899	145	36	181
Total ..	227	9746	7585	387	83	470
1960-61						
Mercara ..	77	3354	2636	117	48	165
Somwarpet ..	83	3277	2420	137	6	143
Virajpet ..	84	3366	2846	141	33	174
Total ..	244	9997	7902	395	87	482
1961-62						
Mercara ..	74	2809	2234	89	26	115
Somwarpet ..	87	3271	2655	122	4	126
Virajpet ..	89	3451	3857	131	27	158
Total ..	250	9531	8746	342	57	399

1953-54

Mercara ..	65	4645	3978	144	86	230
Somwarpet ..	75	2814	2648	101	3	104
Virajpet ..	74	3187	2593	100	46	146
Total ..	214	10646	9219	345	135	480

HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

(Including Senior Basic Schools)

1953-54

Management	*Number of Schools*	*Boys*	*Girls*	*Total*
Government ..	46	8517	5344	13861
Municipality ..	..	..	..	..
Aided	..	..	..	..
Total ..	46	8517	5344	13861

1954-55

Management	*Number of Schools*	*Boys*	*Girls*	*Total*
Government ..	49	8966	5871	14837
Municipality ..	..	..	..	..
Aided ..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	49	8966	5871	14837

1955-56

Government ..	49	9553	6337	15890
Municipality ..	..	..	..	..
Aided ..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	49	9553	6337	15890

1956-57

Government ..	54	12310	8290	20700
Municipality ..	..	..	..	..
Aided ..	1	..	39	39
Total ..	55	12310	8329	20639

1957-58

Government	..	54	12693	8766	21459
Municipality	..	..	..	..	..
Aided	..	1	..	46	46
Total	..	55	12693	8812	21505

1958-59

Government	..	55	13187	9159	22346
Municipality	..	..	..	..	..
Aided	..	1	..	28	28
Total	..	56	13187	9187	22374

1959-60

Government	..	55	13427	9468	22895
Municipality	..	..	..	..	..
Aided	..	1	97	111	208
Total	..	56	13524	9579	23103

1960-61

Government	.	55	13820	9849	23669
Municipality	..	..	..	..	..
Aided	..	3	438	405	843
Total	..	58	14258	10254	24512

1961-62

Government	..	79	17269	12714	29983
Municipality	..	..	..	..	.
Aided	..	3	467	434	901
Total	..	82	17736	13148	30884

1963-64

Government	..	135	582	250	832
Municipality	.	..	..	..	..
Aided	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	135	582	250	832

HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

OR

Senior Basic Schools—Talukwise

NUMBER OF TEACHERS AND STRENGTH OF PUPILS.

Taluks		Number of Schools	Strength		Teachers		Total
			Boys	Girls	Men	Women	
1956-57							
Mercara	..	15	3739	2509	125	47	172
Somwarpet	..	14	2863	1656	120	30	150
Virajpet	..	26	5708	4164	210	74	284
Total	..	55	12310	8329	455	151	606
1957-58							
Mercara, Somwarpet, Virajpet		56	12693	8812	295	131	426
Total	..	56	12693	8812	295	131	426

N.B.—Particulars of Schools, etc., Talukwise are not available for 1957-58.

Taluks		Number of Schools	Boys	Girls	Men	Women	Total
1958-59							
Mercara	..	15	4021	2795	133	54	187
Somwarpet	..	15	3226	1878	127	25	152
Virajpet	..	26	5940	4514	203	84	287
Total	..	56	13187	9187	463	163	626
1959-60							
Mercara	..	15	4101	2992	127	58	185
Somwarpet	..	15	3466	2050	128	35	163
Virajpet	..	26	5957	4537	205	93	298
Total	..	56	13524	9579	460	186	646
1960-61							
Mercara	..	16	4403	3203	126	65	191
Somwarpet	..	16	3784	2355	128	43	171
Virajpet	..	26	6071	4696	198	102	300
Total	..	58	14258	10254	452	210	662

1961-62

Mercara ..	23	5429	4054	151	95	246
Somwarpet ..	24	5165	3338	180	46	226
Virajpet ..	35	7142	5756	229	132	361
Total ..	82	17736	13148	560	273	833

1963-64

Mercara ..	39	4107	3180	114	84	198
Somwarpet ..	43	7218	5249	215	28	243
Virajpet ..	53	7952	6846	253	138	391
Total ..	135	19277	15275	582	250	832

Home Science in Primary Schools.

In 1964-65, teaching of Home Science was introduced in six Government and six private aided primary schools ; eight hundred rupees had been provided for each of these twelve primary schools for the purchase of the necessary equipment.

Encouragement to the study of Hindi.

In 1964-65, under the Third Five-Year Plan programme, twenty-five posts of Hindi teachers were newly sanctioned in addition to the existing number of posts of Hindi teachers.

Compulsory Primary Education.

As per the directive principle laid down in the Constitution, the programme of compulsory primary education should have become an accomplished fact within a period of ten years from the date of ushering in of the Constitution. But owing to the vastness of the problem, the lack of sufficient financial resources, shortage of teachers and other difficulties, no State was able to achieve this goal. Therefore, the Union Government decided that a beginning should be made from the year 1961-62 and that at least 90 per cent of the children should be brought into the schools by the end of 1965-66. Mysore State has accepted this policy and the Mysore Compulsory Primary Education Act of 1961 has been passed by both the Houses of Legislature and its provisions have been brought into force with effect from the 1st August 1961. According to the Act, all children in the age group 6—11 can be compelled to attend schools unless they have satisfactory reasons for not doing so. This programme is to be implemented in stages starting with children of the age group 6—7 during 1961-62, and extending it to the next age group in succeeding years so that by the end of 1965-66 all children in the age group 6—11 would have been covered.

In pursuance of the provisions of the Compulsory Primary Education Act, compulsory primary education was introduced in Coorg for the first time from 1st August, 1961, for the age group 6—7. In the implementation of this programme, some new junior primary schools were opened and some aided feeder schools were taken over by the Government, bringing the total number of schools

opened and taken over by the Government to thirty; 14,591 children of the compulsory age group, 7,434 boys and 7,157 girls, were enumerated during 1961-62 and out of them 12,561 children—6,753 boys and 5,808 girls—were brought on the rolls of the schools, bringing the percentage of enrolment to 86. During 1961-62, 47 new teachers were appointed; a sum of Rs. 69,800 was spent in 1961-62 towards the salary and allowances of the teachers. Taluk level seminars were held in the three taluks of the district during 1961-62, to explain the provisions of the Compulsory Primary Education Act to the members of the grama panchayats and the villagers. Enrolment drives were organised in all the villages during 1961-62.

During the years 1962 to 1964 compulsory primary education was extended to the age groups 7—8 and 8—9. In the table given below, the progress of compulsory primary education from 1961-62 to 1963-64 can be seen.

Year	*Enumeration*			*Enrolment*			*Percentage*		
	Boys	*Girls*	*Total*	*Boys*	*Girls*	*Total*	*Boys*	*Girls*	*Total*
1961-62 ..	7,434	7,157	14.591	6,753	5,808	12,561	90.8	81.1	86
1962-63 ..	12,584	11,076	24,560	11,220	10,383	21,603	89.1	86.7	88
1963-64 ..	16,813	15,879	32,692	15,056	13,731	28,787	89.91	86.0	87.8

Year after year, junior primary schools were being opened in places where there were no schools. In 1961-62, 70 teachers' posts were created to man the newly-opened primary schools and as additional hands to the existing primary, junior basic or senior basic schools. In 1963-64, 145 teachers' posts were created for the same purpose.

It has been felt that in Coorg, compulsion is needed only to bring in the children of the labourers in the coffee, rubber and cardamom plantations and the children of the Scheduled Tribes. The labourers and the Scheduled Tribes often move from place to place in search of their livelihood. Among the permanent residents, the Scheduled Castes and the poorer sections of the Backward communities do not send their children to schools, because they want them to look after their younger children or to watch the standing crops in their fields when they go out of their houses or fields to work elsewhere. If the economic condition of these people improves, they will certainly send their children to school voluntarily.

In order to provide incentives for the children of poor parents to attend school and for their parents to send their children to

school, mid-day meals with CARE aid are given, attendance scholarships are sanctioned, and slates and books are distributed to the poor and deserving children. In the table given below are details of the incentive schemes and the expenditure involved for implementing them.

Details of Incentive Schemes

Range	Mid-day Meals Scheme (CARE)		Attendance Scholarships		Slates		Books		
	Schools	Beneficiaries	No.	Amount Rs.	No.	Amount Rs.	No.	Amount Rs.	Total
Virajpet—									
1961-62 ..	..	..	362	3,260	362	240	362	320	4,820
1962-63 ..	..	..	588	5,400	588	490	588	490	6,260
1963-64 ..	8	3,930	675	6,712	636	560	636	500	7,772
Mercara—									
1961-62 ..	..	..	400	4,000	40	25	400	594	4,619
1962-63 ..	..	..	474	4,750	50	26	50	65	4,841
1963-64 ..	21	2,370	500	5,060	500	120	500	280	5,460
Somwarpet—									
1961-62 ..	..	..	549	5,434	49	17	121	70	5,536
1962-63 ..	..	..	510	3,094	130	40	195	127	3,257
1963-64 ..	44	2,619	495	4,915	130	46	365	238	5,199

In 1964-65, the mid-day meals scheme was extended to 123 schools, the number of beneficiaries in those schools being 13,715. A sum of Rs 20,000 was provided in the budget for 1964-65 to give attendance scholarships to children enrolled under the compulsory education scheme. Out of this amount, Rs. 16,000 were allotted to the rural areas and Rs. 4,000 to the urban areas. In the same year, Rs. 2,200 for the rural areas and Rs. 800 for the urban areas were provided in the budget for the distribution of uniforms, slates, and books to the needy and deserving children.

Donations in cash and kind are collected from the people to meet the expenditure under the compulsory education scheme.

The amounts collected by way of donations from the public during 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64 were as follows :

Range		1961-62	1962-63	1963-64
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs
Mercara	..	18,859	25,635	13,717
Virajpet	..	14,136	7,581	2,664
Somwarpet	..	30,061	26,192	26,771
Total	..	63,056	59,408	43,152

Compulsory education scheme has been a success in Coorg.

Auxiliary Cadet Corps in Senior Basic Schools

All the senior basic schools in Coorg have Auxiliary Cadet Corps troops consisting of both boys and girls. There are Auxiliary Cadet Corps trained men and women teachers. All boys and girls above the age of twelve who are not physically disabled have to join the Auxiliary Cadet Corps. Non-commissioned officers of the 7 Mysore Battalion (Coorg) N.C.C., Mercara supervise the Auxiliary Cadet Corps' movement in Coorg.

Scout Movement in Coorg.

The scout movement was in existence in Coorg from about 1930 to 1950 when the Auxiliary Cadet Corps was first introduced in the schools. As all the students who were twelve years of age and above and who had not been selected for the National Cadet Corps had to compulsorily join the Auxiliary Cadet Corps, the scout movement was not active in Coorg for some years. But in 1963, scout troops were started in five schools of Coorg with a strength of twenty-four scouts in each school.

Girl Guide Movement in Coorg.

In the same year, *i.e.*, 1963, the girl guide movement was started in twelve primary and middle schools in Coorg with a troop strength of twenty-four in each school.

Both the Scout and Girl Guide movements in Coorg have been started under the auspices of the District Association of the Bharat Scouts and Guides.

Inspection of primary and middle schools.

The District Educational Officer is in direct charge of the primary and senior basic schools. He is assisted by three sub-divisional Inspectors of schools, each of whom is in charge of the primary and senior basic schools in his sub-division. The three sub-divisions are (1) Mercara (2) Somwarpet and (3) Virajpet.

The expenditure on primary and middle school education for 1961-62 was Rs. 18,27,800 and for 1962-63, Rs. 16,26,450.

Teachers' Training Schools

A teacher training school had been started at Mercara in 1904. The school was preparing teachers for the lower grade certificates' examination of the Madras Education Department. This school continued at Mercara till 1924. The teachers appearing for the Secondary Grade Teachers' Certificate examination were deputed by the Coorg Government to the Secondary Grade Training School at Mangalore till 1924 and to the training school in the Civil and Military station, Bangalore, after that year. In the training school at Bangalore, higher elementary grade teachers were also trained.

As the number of primary schools and higher elementary schools went on increasing from about 1930, the necessity for more trained teachers of both the higher elementary and the secondary grade certificates arose. Therefore, the Government of Coorg opened a teachers' training school at Mercara in 1944 for training the higher elementary and the secondary grade teachers. This training school was under the headmaster of the Central High School, Mercara, and was located in the building of the Central High School.

This training school was transferred to the Government High School at Virajpet in the year 1950 and was converted into a basic training school with spinning and agriculture as basic crafts. It continued to be under the headmaster of the Government High School, Virajpet, till 1956. In 1956, it was shifted to its own buildings at Kudige near Kushalnagar and was given a higher status as the Basic Training College. The head of this institution was designated the Principal. This Basic Training College was preparing teachers for the Teachers' Certificate Lower Grade of two years' duration and the Teachers' Certificate Higher Grade of ten months' duration, till March 1963. In the academical year 1963-64, the Teachers' Certificate Lower Grade course was abolished in this college and instead of this course the number of candidates for the Teachers' Certificate Higher Grade was increased. The number of the S.S.L.C.-passed teacher-trainees was increased to eighty. These teacher-trainees were divided into two batches. In 1964-65 also, the same arrangement continued. The college is co-educational and residential with hostels separately for men and women teachers. This college is situated in ideal surroundings with an agricultural farm, a dairy farm, a sericultural farm and a sea island cotton section controlled by the respective departments. All these sections are in a compact area and function under a co-ordination committee

Expenditure incurred on the Basic Training College for the year 1963-64 was Rs. 1,17,659.

Secondary Education.

Secondary education begins after the pupils pass out of the VIII standard of the old scheme or the VII standard of the new

scheme and continues till they get the secondary school leaving certificate. The classes in the high school are called VIII, IX and X standards after the introduction of a uniform pattern in the State. Previous to this, they were called IV, V and VI forms.

In Coorg, as has already been told, the Central High School at Mercara was the only high school for boys till 1922. Girls were also attending this school in good numbers. In 1909 a high school for girls was started at Mercara by a French Catholic Mission. As education was under the supervision and inspection of the officers of the Madras Education Department the high schools in Coorg were preparing the students for the matriculation examination of the Madras University till 1911 and for the Madras Secondary School Leaving Certificate examination from 1912. In the Madras S.S.L.C. scheme, students had to take two optional subjects besides taking English, Elementary Kannada, Elementary Mathematics, Science and History. The medium of instruction for non-language subjects in the high schools in Coorg was English till 1944, when the Madras S.S.L.C. Board insisted on introducing the regional language as the medium of instruction for the non-language subjects.

As the Central High School at Mercara was too distant for the students of South Coorg, from which part of Coorg the majority of students were seeking admission to the above high school, the lower secondary school at Virajpet, the second town of Coorg, was upgraded into a high school in 1922. This was under the control of the Government. Later on, when the older and bigger primary schools were converted into middle schools and as the people wanted higher education for their children, new high schools began to be opened in all parts of Coorg, with the result that there were thirty-two high schools during 1964-65. Of these thirty-two high schools, five were Government high schools and the others were aided or unaided high schools.

The high schools of Coorg were preparing students for the Madras S.S.L.C. examination till 1957 and hence were following the curriculum of studies prescribed by the Madras S.S.L.C. Examination Board English was the medium of instruction for the non-language subjects till 1944, after which year the regional language Kannada was made the medium of instruction in the high schools of Coorg. English and Kannada and the non-language subjects of social studies, general mathematics and general science were the examination subjects; from 1944, craft, physical education and citizenship were non-examination subjects. Though Hindi was taught up to VI form, a pass in that language was not insisted upon for eligibility for the college course.

In 1952, the Government of India appointed the Secondary Education Commission to enquire into and report on the prevail-

ing system of secondary education which was unilateral and predominantly academic in nature and to suggest measures for its reorganisation and improvement with particular reference to (i) the aims, organisation and content of secondary education; (ii) its relationship to primary, basic and higher education; (iii) the inter-relation of secondary schools of different types; and (iv) other allied problems, so that a sound and reasonably uniform system of secondary education suited to our needs and resources may be provided for the whole country.

This Secondary Education Commission prepared its report in June 1953 and submitted it to the Government of India. It recommended among other things a higher secondary stage of education of four years' duration after the middle and the primary stages of education of seven years' duration, which should lead on to a three-year degree course of education in the college. It further recommended that besides the core subjects of (i) languages (ii) general science and mathematics (iii) social studies and (iv) crafts and physical activities, diversified courses of instruction should also be provided for the pupils at the high school or higher secondary stage. The diversified courses of study which should include the following groups (i) humanities, (ii) sciences (iii) technical subjects (iv) commercial subjects, (v) agricultural subjects (vi) fine arts, and (vii) home sciences were to begin in the second year of the high school or higher secondary school stage. The Government of India approved the recommendations of the Secondary Education Commission and drew up syllabuses in different subjects in 1957. It directed the State Governments also to draw up syllabuses on the lines suggested by the Secondary Education Commission with necessary changes to suit local conditions.

The Government High Schools at Mercara and Ponnampet were converted into higher secondary schools in the year 1956 by the Government of Coorg. Humanities, sciences, technical subjects and commerce subjects were introduced in the higher secondary schools at Mercara and humanities, agricultural science and fine arts in the Government High School at Ponnampet. These schools followed the higher secondary syllabuses prepared by the Ministry of Education and presented the first batch of VII Form students for the public examination in the year 1960.

After the reorganisation of States, the Educational Integration Advisory Committee appointed by the Government of Mysore, helped by various sub-committees, prepared syllabuses of subjects of study from VIII Standard (new) corresponding to IV Form of the old pattern of education to X Standard corresponding to VI Form of the old pattern. The Government introduced the new pattern of education in VIII Standard in 1960-61, in IX Standard in 1961-62 and in X Standard in 1962-63.

The main object of the introduction of diversified courses in secondary schools was to provide a variety of courses instead of the merely academic one, to suit the varied requirements of children of different aptitudes. But the students were not debarred from pursuing higher studies in the colleges. The study of the three languages, the regional language, English and Hindi was made compulsory. Students whose mother tongue is a language other than the regional language can take a composite course in the language consisting of both their mother tongue and the regional language or the regional language and a classical language. But in Coorg, the students study only Kannada, the regional language, English and Hindi.

Kannada was the medium of instruction in the high schools from 1944 and continues to be so even now, though one school, the girls' high school at Mercara, teaches the optional subjects in English from 1961-62. The permission of the Education Department is necessary to introduce English as the medium of instruction.

Number of High Schools in Coorg.

There were thirty-two high schools in Coorg in the academical year 1964-65. Of these, five were Government high schools. Among these five high schools, the high school at Mercara was upgraded into a higher secondary school in 1964-65. It had been a high school from 1958 to 1962 but in 1962-63, the VII Form was removed from this school and the students of X Standard took the uniform pattern of the S.S.L.C. examination in 1963. In 1964-65, XI Standard was opened in this school. The other Government high schools were at Virajpet, Somwarpet, Napoklu and Ponnampet. The other twenty-seven high schools were privately managed. Of the thirty-two high schools, the St. Joseph's Girls' High School at Mercara is exclusively a girls' high school, while the St. Anne's Higher Secondary School at Virajpet has separate sections for girls and boys in the same school. The rest of the high schools were co-educational schools. In Coorg, girls have freely attended the boys' schools. Even at Mercara where there is a high school exclusively for girls, a large number of girls attend the boys' schools.

The Government of Mysore have made secondary education free to the boys and girls, the annual income of whose parents does not exceed Rs. 2,400. This fee concession came into force from the year 1962-63. About 90 per cent of the students studying in the high schools are being benefited by this concession.

National Cadet Corps

The scheme of raising National Cadet Corps battalions is functioning in the five Government high schools and in the St. Anne's Girls' High School, Virajpet, and in the St. Joseph's Girls' High School at Mercara. In the last two aided high schools there are girls' N.C.C. troops. Among the Government high

schools, the Higher Secondary School, Mercara, and the Government High School, Virajpet, have girls' N.C.C. troops.

Inspection of High Schools

The high schools of Coorg are under the direct control of the Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Mysore Divison, Mysore. He is assisted by the District Educational Officer in the inspection and administration of high schools. Twenty-five per cent of the high schools are inspected by the Deputy Director of Public Instruction and the rest by the District Educational Officer. The subject inspectors and the superintendent of physical education also inspect high schools in the district under orders from the Deputy Director of Public Instruction.

Expenditure on Secondary Education.—Government spent Rs. 2,95,295 on secondary education in Coorg for the year 1961-62.

Abstract of schools in Coorg in 1964-65

(1)	Government High/Higher Secondary Schools ..	5
(2)	Private High Schools ..	27
(3)	Government Senior Basic Schools ..	135
(4)	Government Junior Basic Schools ..	27
(5)	Government Junior Primary Schools ..	174
(6)	Government Senior Primary Schools ..	1
(7)	Municipal Senior Primary Schools ..	5
(8)	Private Senior Primary Schools ..	4
(9)	Private Primary Schools ..	3
(10)	Private Co-operative Nursery Schools ..	9
		390

The nursery schools conducted by the non-co-operative mahila samajas have not been included in this list. The private schools in the above list are receiving financial assistance from the Education department.

Stationery Societies

Co-operative Stationery Societies in High Schools.—The co-operative movement is very popular in Coorg. There are about 450 co-operative societies of all types in Coorg. In every Government high school and in some aided high schools, co-operative stationery societies have been functioning satisfactorily for a fairly long time. These societies deal in text books, exercise books, other school requisites and also in toilet goods, blades, woollen yarn, sports materials and other non-perishable goods of daily use. The head master of the school is the president of the society. One of his assistants is the vice-president. He manages the society with a secretary elected from among the students of the school and assisted by a board consisting of both the teacher and student members. Students take active interest in the working of the co-operative societies.

Collegiate Education—Colleges

There was no college in Coorg till 1949. Students passing out of the high schools experienced great difficulty in securing admission to the colleges outside Coorg and many had to discontinue their studies after the S.S.L.C. examination on account of the high expenditure involved in prosecuting their college studies outside the State. The question of starting a college in Coorg was on the tapis for a considerable time and proposals to start a first grade college at Mercara were made from time to time.

In 1949, a second grade college was started within the premises of the central high school. A new building to house the college was built in 1953 on a hillock in ideal rural surroundings, about a mile and a half from the town, overlooking fascinating natural scenery all round. The college moved to the new building in 1953 and in that year it was raised to the status of a first grade college. B.A. classes were started with the following subjects :—

(i) Hindi and Kannada under part II and Pure Mathematics (main) and

(ii) History (main) under part III.

The strength of the college then was 290.

With the completion of the science laboratories in July 1954, the following science courses for the Bachelor's Degree were started under part III :—

(1) Physics (Main) and Mathematics or Chemistry (Subsidiary).

(2) Botany (Main) and Chemistry or Zoology (Subsidiary).

Thus, in July 1954, the Government College at Mercara became a full fledged first grade college in humanities and sciences. This college was affiliated to the University of Madras. In 1958 the college had a strength of 410.

In July 1956, with the reorganisation of University education, Pre-University classes were started and in 1957, the first year class of the three-year degree course was also started. After the reorganisation of States and the integration of Coorg with the new Mysore State, the college had to get itself disaffiliated from the Madras University and seek affiliation to the University of Mysore. The college became affiliated to the University of Mysore from the academic year 1957-58.

The following courses of studies were available in the college as on 1st July 1962 :—

PRE-UNIVERSITY

Part I	..	English.
Part II	..	Kannada or Hindi or Urdu.
Part III	..	(i) Physics, Chemistry and Biology, (ii) Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics, and (iii) History, Economics and Logic.

B.A. THREE-YEAR DEGREE COURSE

Part I	..	English.
Part II	..	Kannada or Hindi.
Part III	..	(i) History, Politics (Major) and Economics (Minor), (ii) Philosophy, Politics (Major) and Economics (Minor).

B.Sc. THREE-YEAR DEGREE COURSE

Part I	..	English.
Part II	..	Kannada or Hindi.
Part III	..	(i) Mathematics, Physics (Major) and Chemistry (Minor), (ii) Chemistry, Physics (Major) and Mathematics (Minor) and (iii) Botany and Zoology (Major) and Chemistry (Minor).

The strength of the teaching staff was seventeen in the Arts section and eighteen in the Science section, the total being thirty-five. Four ladies were on the staff. There was a Physical Education Instructress on the staff.

The college has a well-equipped library consisting of 15,388 books. There are science blocks for Physics, Chemistry and Biology subjects with well-equipped laboratories. A Natural Science block built at a cost of about one and a half lakhs of rupees was also added to the college in 1964.

In 1963-64, there were one hundred and ninety-one men students and sixty-five women students in the Pre-University class and one hundred and sixty-nine men students and sixty-eight women students in the B.A. and B.Sc. classes, the total strength of the college for the year 1963-64 being four hundred and ninety-three (three hundred and sixty men students and one hundred and thirty-three women students).

A spacious play ground constructed at a cost of Rs. 30,000 provides opportunities for physical education and games for the students of the college.

The college has two hostels, one for boys with a capacity of one hundred and ten and another for girls with a capacity of sixty. Nearly 40% of the student strength of the college is accommodated in these hostels.

A clinic is attached to the college. There is a part-time doctor and a full-time compounder in the clinic.

There are three N.C.C. platoons attached to the college—two for boys and one for girls—each under the charge of a trained officer. The girls' platoon is under the charge of a trained lady officer. All these platoons and officers are under the control and supervision of the Commanding Officer, 7 Mysore Battalion N.C.C. (Coorg), Mercara.

A students' co-operative society store run by the staff and students of the college has been working well and its annual turn-over in business is nearly two lakhs of rupees.

The expenditure on the collegiate education in the district in 1963-64 was Rs. 2,59,810.

The following table shows the amount spent on education in Coorg from 1834 to 1964 :—

Year	*Total expenditure under education*
	Rs.
1834-35	1,080
1859-60	3,870
1874-75	17,219
1903-04	35,085
1916-17	1,01,547
1944-45	3,01,700
1949-50	10,52,878
1950-51	10,77,000
1951-52	12,65,129
1955-56	29,60,736
1961-62	27,78,532
1963-64	26,96,248

In the above table of expenditure on education, expenditure on collegiate education has not been included.

The college has the atmosphere of a campus. The principal and many members of the staff reside in quarters near the college premises. The hostels—both for boys and girls—are also near the college and each is under the control of a Deputy Warden who has been provided with rent-free quarters. The area comprising the college, staff quarters and the hostels is situated on a hillock in ideal surroundings and is at a distance of about two kilometres from the town.

Professional and Technical Education.

There is no engineering, medical, technological, commercial or law college in Coorg. A polytechnic was opened at Kushalnagar in August 1961 in pursuance of the policy laid down by the Government of Mysore to start one polytechnic in every district of the State. As the permanent building for the institute is under construction, and as the institute is run at present in a private building, only the three years' civil and mechanical engineering diploma courses have been started for the present.

A professional and technical institute called the industrial training institute is run by the Government at Mercara. It was first started at Virajpet in 1950 by the Government of India, Ministry of Labour, and then was shifted to Mercara. It was handed over to the State Government some years ago. It offers instruction in cutting and tailoring, carpentry, fitters and draughtsman (civil) trades; cutting and tailoring is a vocational trade of 12 months' training while the other trades are taught for 18 months.

Students who are pursuing their studies in the engineering, medical, veterinary, agricultural, technical higher and technical lower courses in colleges or institutes outside the district are awarded a certain number of scholarships by the Government and by some private organisations.

Government Co-operative Training Institute.

A Government co-operative training institute was opened at Mercara in 1952. It trains clerks, supervisors and inspectors of co-operative societies and auditors for carrying on the activities of the co-operative societies. Training is given for six months for each batch and two batches of candidates are trained every year. There is provision to train eighty candidates in one session. Candidates for training are taken to the institute from Coorg, South Kanara, Mysore, Mandya, Hassan, Chikmagalur and Shimoga Districts.

Gramsevaks Training Centre.

A gramsevaks' training centre was started at Kudige in 1959. Candidates from Coorg and the neighbouring districts are trained in this institute. It takes fifty candidates at a time and the training is for a period of two years.

Government Central Apiary.

A Government central apiary was established at Bhagamandala in 1953-54. Training classes for the Bee-keepers and Bee-men are conducted at the apiary.

Encouragement to Fine Arts, Music, Dancing and Painting.

A State Academy of Dance, Drama and Music had been started in Coorg in 1953 by the Government of Coorg. The Government was giving a grant of Rs. 5,000 a year and the activities of the academy were regulated and conducted by a committee consisting of officials and non-officials. Music and dance classes were held for two days in the week in each of the three places, Mercara, Somwarpet and Virajpet, by the same set of instructors. Cultural entertainments were being held not less than three times a year.

After the integration of Coorg in the New Mysore State, the State Academy of Coorg had to assume the status of a district branch of the new Mysore State Academy of Dance, Drama and Music. A District Committee with the Deputy Commissioner as Chairman and the District Social Educational Organiser as the Secretary and six non-official members was constituted to chalk out and conduct the programme of the academy. Music classes are conducted at Mercara and Somwarpet and dance classes at Mercara and Virajpet. Cultural programmes are arranged on important days like the Republic Day, the Independence Day and Vijaya Dasami Day. Cultural competitions at district and taluk levels are also arranged every year.

Social or Adult Education.

The programme of social or adult education first began in North Coorg in 1952 with the opening of the adult literacy classes. In 1953, after the inception of the community development programme, adult literacy classes were opened all over the district and were financed by the Government. Two thousand three hundred and thirty-four adults were made literate till November 1956 when Coorg was integrated with the New Mysore State.

In 1956-57 and in 1957-58, two camps were held for training social education workers, in which ninety-nine village leaders were trained in improved methods of cultivation, animal husbandry, co-operation, social education, health and sanitation. Demonstrations were also conducted in these camps in the use of the improved iron plough, preparation of compost, and the construction of hand flush latrines and soak-pits. Exhibitions were also organised in each of these camps, as also cultural activities and film shows.

In 1961-62, a special grant of Rs. 8,000 was given to the district for a special programme of adult literacy; thirty-five

adult literacy classes were conducted by the social education section of the community development scheme in 1961-62.

Follow-up work to prevent relapse into illiteracy is being organised satisfactorily. Rural libraries have been started in 101 centres by the Education Department. Fifty rural libraries have been opened in the three Community Development Blocks of Coorg under the community development scheme. Funds are provided for these libraries in the budget of the community development scheme. There are, on an average, about 200 books in each library and new books are being added to these libraries every year. Reading Rooms have been organised in many centres for the neo-literates.

Rural Radio Forums.

Ten Rural Radio Forums have been started in 1964-65 in different parts of Coorg and the villagers meet twice a week to hear the special Rural Broadcasts. Attempts were made to open special Rural Radio Forums for women in 1964-65.

Youth Clubs.

The youth movement in the district has been progressing both in quality and in quantity. Somwarpet Taluk has been selected for pilot project of youth clubs and there are about 50 youth clubs in that taluk. In the other two taluks, there are about 60 youth clubs.

Most of these youth clubs have taken up agriculture, bee-keeping and vegetable gardening as group projects. Apiary, vegetable gardening, piggery and pisciculture are some of the popular individual projects

Women's Activities.

There are three types of Mahila Samajas in the district. There are nine co-operative Mahila Samajas, about twenty-seven Mahila Samajas started by the Social Welfare Board and about thirty opened by the Community Development Blocks. The women's welfare centres for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes come under the last category. In all these Mahila Samajas or Women's Welfare Centres, nursery classes for children of the age group 3—5 are conducted and craft classes for women are held. Women meet in these Mahila Samajas as often as convenient and discuss problems relating to women and child welfare. A few Mahila Samajas afford library facilities to members.

The Social Education Section of the Community Development Department conducts orientation training camps to train women teachers to conduct nursery or balawadi classes and to organise group activities for women.

The same organisation conducts orientation training camps for the village leaders and panchayat members to remove illiteracy

and ignorance in the villagers and to make them better citizens and better workmen.

Film Shows.

As a part of the social education programme, film shows are arranged in rural areas. They generally attract huge crowds. Popular and educative films are shown to the people. There is a film library housed in the Office of the District Educational Officer consisting of educational, agricultural, cultural, documentary and other feature films. Mobile cinema vans attached to the District Educational Office and the Community Development Blocks tour according to programme, and film shows are organised by them.

Recreational Activities.

Folk dances and Yakshagana performances are arranged under the auspices of the Yuvaka Sanghas by the Social Education Department. Yuvaka Sanghas or youth clubs have been started in populous villages to co-operate with grampanchayats in carrying on developmental activities in the panchayat area. These yuvak sanghas are supplied with indoor and outdoor sports materials and radio sets. Community centres have been opened in some villages. Poultry-keeping, horticulture and bee-keeping are some of the activities taken up by the community centres. Community radios have been supplied to many villages. Youth rallies are conducted at block level and district level once a year. Competitions in fine arts and sports, demonstrations of agricultural activities, lectures and cultural entertainments are conducted during these rallies.

Annual study tours for villagers are being conducted by the Community Development Blocks Seminars and group discussions on the five year plans and other developmental activities are also being arranged regularly.

The people's participation in all these activities has been forthcoming in ample measure.

Social Education

Administrative set-up of the Social Education Section.—There is one District Social Education Officer guiding and supervising the social education activities of the district. He is under the administrative control of the Deputy Commissioner of Coorg who is also the head of the community development scheme. At the block level, there are three social education organisers, one for each block. At the village level, the gramsevakas organise the social education activities. Recently, Government have issued orders handing over the social education section to the Education Department.

Under the five-year plan of educational development, an organiser for rural libraries has been appointed. He is attached to the Office of the District Educational Officer.

The following table gives an idea of the number of classes held, adults admitted and adults made literate, in the adult literacy classes from 1958-59 to 1960-61.

Year	*No. of classes conducted*	*Adults admitted*		*Adults made literate*	
		Men	*Women*	*Men*	*Women*
1958-59	.. 31	697	128	155	34
1959-60	.. 18	452	61	230	35
1960-61	.. 15	112	111	72	44

The following gives an idea of the various activities :—

	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59
Social Education Day ..	153	157	162
Demonstrations on health and agriculture.	573	652	836
Exhibitions ..	30	32	42
Recreational and Cultural Programmes.	680	792	865
Sports meets ..	32	45	61

Cultural and Literary activities.

There are a few societies in Coorg devoted to cultural activities. They are the following :—

The Karnataka Sangha at Mercara was started in 1933, after the annual Kannada Sahitya Parishat conference was held at Mercara in December 1932. It has a membership of about one hundred. The Karnataka Sangha at Virajpet was started in 1945 and it has about fifty members. Under the auspices of these sanghas, lectures by scholars are arranged on classical works in Kannada literature, dramas are staged and readings from the epics are given. A few amateur dramatic associations have recently sprung up at Mercara. They put up dramatic shows on important occasions like Vijaya Dasami, Shivarathri, Yugadi and such other festive days.

The Vedantha Sangha at Mercara, the Sri Cauvery Ashrama at Virajpet, the Sri Ramakrishnashrama at Ponnampet and the Sri Siddarudashrama at Cherambane arrange religious discourses, Bhajans, Harikathas and Bharatha or Kavya vachanas during Navarathri, Shivarathri, Rama Navami, Ramakrishna Jayanthi, Vivekananda Jayanthi and such other days of religious significance.

A study circle called the Gandhi Study Circle was started at Mercara in June 1961 to study and propagate Gandhian philosophy and ideology. The members of the study circle hold

monthly meetings and discuss topics like swadeshi, harijan uplift, industrialisation and family planning.

A branch of the Rotary International is functioning at Mercara. This club holds its meetings every Friday. Lectures by eminent men in different walks of life are being arranged for the benefit of the members.

The Government College, Mercara, and many high schools in Coorg publish their magazines periodically. These publications contain articles on scientific, cultural and literary topics.

Libraries.

There is one district library called the Mahatma Gandhi Public Library at Mercara. There were 13,703 books in the library in 1962. The books are in English, Kannada, Hindi and Sanskrit as per particulars furnished below :—

Kannada	.. 8,663
English	.. 3,946
Hindi	.. 1,083
Sanskrit	.. 11
	13,703

The Government College, Mercara, has got a good library consisting of 15,000 books. The libraries of the five Government high schools of Coorg also contain about three thousand books each. These high school libraries contain standard works on English literature, reference books and books in Kannada and in Hindi.

Literary activities.

The people of Coorg had no facilities for education, even of an elementary nature, till the advent of the British rule in Coorg. High school or secondary education in any extensive measure began only about twenty-five or thirty years ago. It is no wonder that literary works of any merit were not published till very recently. Lingarajendra Wodeyar of Coorg is said to have composed some poems, but they are not extant now.

The first writer of some merit in Coorg was Haridasa Appacha Kavi. He was well read in Hindu puranic lore and wrote four five-act dramas in the Kodava dialect, but in Kannada script, as the Kodava dialect has no script of its own. He composed songs also. His dramas are of the old type with songs and dialogues intermixed. Appacha Kavi was himself a good actor and staged his dramas with his own amateur actors all over Coorg between the twenties and the thirties of this century. His dramas have been published and are popular to this day.

A short story writer of Coorg who won all-Karnataka fame was the short-lived Smt. B. T. G. Krishna. The two collections

of short stories written by her which brought her name and fame were "Kambani" and "Chiguru". Her untimely death at a very young age deprived Coorg and the Kannada-speaking regions of a writer of great promise.

A novelist and also a short-story writer of some repute is Sri S. R. Narayana Rao. He has written about sixty novels in Kannada under the pen name "Bharathi Suta" and also a number of short stories which have won recognition.

Other books which have received publicity in Coorg and outside are Sri I. M. Muthanna's 'A Tiny Model State of South India' in English, a Souvenir on Coorg edited by Sri D. N. Krishnayya and published by the Canara Banking Corporation Ltd., in English, "Kodagu mattu Kodavaru" (ಕೊಡಗು ಮತ್ತು ಕೊಡವರು) by Sri B. D. Ganapathi and 'Kutumba Yojane' (ಕುಟುಂಬ ಯೋಜನೆ) in Kannada by Prof. K. R. Udupa of the Government College, Mercara.

Sri S. R. Narayana Rao got a State award for his novel in 1963 and in 1964, he got the National award for his book "Diseases spread by the Mosquitoes" (ಸೊಳ್ಳೆಗಳು ಹರಡುವ ರೋಗಗಳು) in Kannada for the neo-literates.

Sri K. Sachidananda Rao of Somwarpet got the State award for his book "Kodava nanu Kodava Nadu" (ಕೊಡವ ನಾನು ಕೊಡವ ನಾಡು) for the neo-literates in 1963.

Folk Songs.

The Coorgs have their own folk songs which they sing in chorus during the village temple festivals, at the time of marriages, funerals and at their important annual festival "Huttari", to the accompaniment of the beat of a small hand drum which they carry in their hands. These songs have no great pretensions to high class music, and no musical instrument except the hand drum is necessary while singing these songs. They are of two kinds; the songs sung during the village festivals and the "Huttari" festival are in praise of the local village deities and the God Mahadeva and the Goddess Bhagavathi, while the songs sung during marriages or funerals are in praise of the married couple or the qualities of the head and heart of the deceased person. These songs are sung generally by elderly Coorg men.

The people of the district had no opportunities to hear good music or learn music of any kind in the old days. The Devadasi system in the temples was unknown in Coorg. The people of those days knew no music beyond their own folk songs described above. But in recent years, boys and girls have taken to both vocal and instrumental music wherever there are facilities to learn them. There is a dearth of music instructors, as Coorg depends on outside talent in this respect. The girls are good at

singing cinema songs, which they have learnt from the silver screen or from broadcasts on the radio.

Folk Dances.

Bharathanatyam and other dances common elsewhere in South India were foreign to the people. The only dances they knew were the dances they performed in the temples during the annual festivals. These dances were performed more with the movement of the hands and legs than with any changes in facial expressions to indicate the different emotions. The popular dances of the Coorgs are the "Bolakatu" (ಬೊಳಕಾಟು), a dance round the oil lamp in front of the temple, "Peeliyatu" (ಪೀಲಿಯಾಟು) a dance with the feathers of a bird in their hands, and "Kombatu" (ಕೊಂಬಾಟು) which is a dance round the lamp in front of the temple or round the inner shrine, the dancers holding the horns of a deer in their hands. The movements of legs and hands in these different dances are almost the same.

During the "Huttari" festival, the Coorgs have another kind of dance with the beating of two canes held in their hands; dressed in their national costume, they hold two cane sticks each in their hands and dance round a peepul tree in the village green to the accompaniment of the beat of the drum. There are about twelve different varieties of cane stick dancing. There is also a single combat dance performed during the "Huttari" festival.

During marriages and other joyous occasions, the people dance to the beat of drums, making different movements and gestures of hands. There is not much uniformity in the movement of hands or in gestures in these dances.

The younger generation of people now-a-days, particularly the girls, practise the Bharathanatyam and Manipuri dance under instructors who are appointed by the District Academy of Dance, Drama and Music. Bharathanatyam has become popular in Coorg now.

In the cultural entertainments held in different parts of Coorg either as a part of the social education programme or in connection with school days or college days, different kinds of modern dances are exhibited. The people of Coorg are becoming more and more interested in fine arts like dancing and music. They are also taking part in other cultural activities like recitations from the classics, play-acting and writing of short stories.

There are no institutions in Coorg either for the propagation of oriental learning or for the education of the handicapped.

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Evolution of the Medical and Public Health Services in Coorg.

THE Ayurvedic system was the system practised all over India from the earliest times. The system had its roots in the culture, the climate and the environment of the country. It seems to have become a part of Sanskrit learning and it was generally taught in the Sanskrit schools Coorg was and is rich in varied types of flora. The people of Coorg, therefore, took full advantage of the medicinal herbs and plants for affording relief to the suffering people. Even to-day, there are men who apply leaves, roots and other precious herbs for many of the common ailments. The Ayurvedic doctors were famous for their sound knowledge of the medicinal properties of plants and herbs. A good Ayurvedic practitioner was quite capable of affording relief to his patients with the help of ordinary herbs and plants commonly available in the village parts without having to depend on costly chemists and druggists. The Muslims brought their own system of treatment, the Unani, practised by the hakims. They did not penetrate into the rural areas, their practice being generally confined more or less to the urban areas. The Unani doctors not only enjoyed the patronage of the Muslim aristocracy, but also a considerable section of the Hindus sought their aid. The vaidyas continued their practice of Ayurveda both in the urban and in the rural areas and the common people had great faith in them. Their medicines were not only cheap, but also they were efficacious and easily obtainable everywhere. With the progressively greater contact with the East India Company and the British officers, the western system of medicine came into vogue in India.

There were no hospitals in Coorg in early days. It has been noted in the Administrative Report of 1863 that there was a single-bed hospital at Mercara situated in the Sappers' Lines, now the area on either side of the Hill Road leading to the market. In the year 1864, this hospital was shifted to the present site as that was found to be a central spot in the town. There was a Dispensary Committee which collected money for the management of the institution and in the later years,

Government met a portion of the expenditure in the shape of a grant. The services of a medical officer from Madras were obtained at that time and he was in charge of the hospitals of the civil establishment in Coorg.

The total cost of the department, including the salaries and cost of drugs, was Rs. 2,056 for the year 1865. There were no proper buildings for accommodating the in-patients. However, a small number of patients were treated and out-door relief was also rendered.

There were two Civil Dispensaries, one at Mercara and the other at Virarajendrapet (now known as Virajpet), the latter opened in 1870. Besides these institutions which afforded medical relief to the general public, there was a hospital at the jail at Mercara, for the treatment of the prisoners, and the Military Hospital for the sepoys and camp-followers attached to the garrison. The Regimental Medical Officer was in charge of all the institutions at Mercara and a medical subordinate of the dispensary at Virajpet. The Medical Officer in charge of the regiment was termed as Civil Surgeon and he was in receipt of a charge allowance also. He was also the Superintendent of the Mercara Jail. Dr. J. P. Nash was the first Medical Officer A Deputy Surgeon-General of the Mysore Circle was in administrative medical charge of the troops stationed in Mercara and he had control over the Civil Surgeon.

The dispensaries were maintained partly from Government funds and partly from donations and subscriptions. The income of the two dispensaries for 1875 amounted to Rs. 4,344 of which Rs. 2,854 were contributed by Government, Rs. 461 from local funds and Rs. 1,029 from subscriptions. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,460 of which sixty-four per cent was paid by Government. There were Rs. 4,928 to the credit of the two dispensaries at the close of the year 1875.

The number under treatment had risen from two hundred and thirty-three in-patients and three thousand six hundred and sixty-six out-patients or three thousand eight hundred and ninety nine altogether, in 1865-66. to three hundred and eleven in-patients and eight thousand six hundred and ninety-two out-patients or totally nine thousand and three in 1875-76.

About five per cent of the out-door patients for each dispensary did not attend personally. The mortality of in-door patients was 14.92 per cent; 41.32 per cent of the ailments and 32.81 per cent of the casualties were due to malarial diseases, in which term were comprehended, not only malarial fever, but its sequelae-diarrhoea and dysentery. There was no doubt that fever was the principal and most fatal disease of the district,

the number of deaths from this cause being from 2,500 to 3,000 per annum. There were six deaths from cholera in 1871-72, five in 1875-76 and none in the intermediate years.

The Deputy Surgeon-General of the Mysore Circle continued to be in administrative medical charge of the troops stationed in Mercara till 1881. In the year 1882, the Government of India resolved to withdraw the troops from this station and therefore, the services of the regimental Medical Officer were found no longer necessary.

In those days, the hospitals were considered as charitable institutions. In 1880, the hospital at Virajpet was furnished with a few beds and about twenty-five in-patients were admitted into it. A room for purposes of surgery was constructed in the Mercara hospital, and quarters for the resident doctor were also put up adjacent to the hospital. Some other buildings were also raised there between 1870 and 1875. In 1881, the adjoining Mission House was purchased for Rs. 4,000 and this provided space for the hospital office. The financial position of the hospital at Virajpet was not satisfactory despite the fact that the building and other requirements were provided through public collections. In-patients were admitted into it on a very small scale from 1873.

The mortality among the in-patients used to be very high, being on an average between 20 to 30 per cent of the total number treated for each year. During the famine years of 1878-79, medical aid was afforded to 1507 patients in the dispensaries. An increase in the number of hospitals was urgently necessary since the great bulk of the population was entirely without any kind of medical aid. In the year 1880, 303 in-patients and 6,756 out-patients were given medical aid in the Mercara hospital. In the year 1881, the number of patients treated in Mercara was 5,100 and in the year 1886, this figure rose to 15,665. In 1900, 561 in-patients and 8,812 out-patients were provided medical assistance in the same hospital

In the year 1880, 309 in-patients and 4,086 out-patients were treated in the hospital at Virajpet. In 1881, the number of patients treated at the Virajpet hospital was nine thousand and ninety-five. In the year 1900, 873 in-patients and 10,602 out-patients were given medical help in the same hospital.

In 1883, the control and management of both the hospitals was transferred to the Municipal Boards of the respective towns. Sanction from the Government of India was obtained in 1880 to get a regular band of qualified men for the subordinate medical service from the Government of Madras. Employees in the estates were treated free and the quantity of drugs used

by them was much more than was expected. Planters used to pay some nominal amounts by way of their share of the expenditure but this was very inadequate. Medicines were obtained from the Madras Medical Stores, but from 1883, these were obtained direct from England and this practice continued up to 1906. The Government, the District Board and the Municipalities used to contribute their quotas in meeting the expenditure of the Medical Department.

In 1904, the Government of India sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1.75 lakhs for the improvement of the hospitals in the State of Coorg. The Mercara hospital site and compound were enlarged and extended. The new buildings were completed in 1907 at a cost of Rs. 67,000. The number of beds provided in this hospital was seventy.

The new buildings of the Virajpet hospital were completed and opened in 1908 at a cost of Rs. 63,500. Accommodation for fifty-six in-patients was made available in the new wards. The municipal hospitals at Mercara and Virajpet were transferred to the control of Government in 1908. The other dispensaries were managed by local funds. In the year 1907, it was decided that the post of the Assistant Surgeon, Mercara, should be held by a military surgeon.

The opening of dispensaries at Somwarpet, Kushalnagar and Vontiangadi was proposed as early as 1885. The dispensary at Napoklu was opened in 1888 and at Gonikoppal in 1890. The latter was enlarged in 1912 and converted into a non-diet hospital containing four beds. The dispensary at Somwarpet was opened in 1892 and a ward was built therein consisting of fourteen beds. With the opening of the dispensary at Suntikoppa in 1893, the number of patients attending the hospital at Mercara was reduced. In the same year, a dispensary was started in Kushalnagar, but it was later transferred to Siddapur, a place surrounded by coffee estates. However, the year 1910 saw the starting of a dispensary again at Kushalnagar, and in the same year, a dispensary was opened at Bhagamandala also. The dispensary at Srimangala was opened in 1913. The dispensary at Murnad was opened in the year 1930 and the dispensary at Sanivarasanthe was opened in 1931. The dispensary at Balele was established in 1939 while that at Tithimathi was started in 1949. In all the above places, the dispensaries were housed in the buildings constructed through public donations. Of the private dispensaries in the estates established before the year 1925, the noteworthy ones were the Elk-Hill Dispensary near Siddapur and the Beachbanda Dispensary near Pollibetta.

Rural dispensaries and weekly dispensaries were also arranged for with a view to providing wider medical aid to the people.

An X-ray plant was installed in the hospital at Mercara in the year 1940 and one in the hospital at Virajpet in 1950 through generous donations given by the public. The District Board Ayurvedic dispensaries functioned at Bhagamandala, Hebbale and Kodlipet. These Board institutions were taken under Government management with effect from April 1953 and provision was made to re-organise them on sound lines. The dispensary started by the Ramakrishna Mission at Ponnampet is maintained out of public donations and it is rendering very useful service to the people of that area. The dispensary of the Consolidated Coffee Estates, Ltd., at Pollibetta, and of the Cooverkolly Coffee Estates at Somwarpet were some of the estate dispensaries in Coorg. Systematic medical inspection of school children was also being conducted by the department regularly.

As regards the officers of the department, the Government of Madras accepted the proposal of the Government of India in 1912 that the Surgeon-General of Madras should conduct periodical inspections of the hospital at Mercara. Accordingly, occasional inspections were conducted by him up to 1934. In 1937, the Chief Commissioner of Coorg proposed that the periodical inspection of the Coorg Medical Department should be conducted by the Residency Surgeon, Bangalore. It had been decided in 1933 that the post of the Civil Surgeon should be held by the junior officers of the I.M.S. cadre. Accordingly, the Medical Department in Coorg was under a European I.M.S. officer of the rank of a captain, designated as Civil Surgeon, up to July 1941. Between July 1941 and November 1944, it was under a retired I.M.S. officer. From this date onwards, it was under a Provincial Officer. The Civil Surgeon was in charge of both Medical and Public Health Departments up to 15th January 1949.

The post of the Malaria Officer was created towards the end of 1946 and the Public Health Department was placed under him from 15th January 1949.

After the Second World War, with the progress of Indianisation of all appointments, hitherto held by the officers belonging to the Secretary of State Services, posts were gradually filled up by Indians of the Provincial Service and such a change took place in the year 1945 in the Coorg Medical Department also.

In Coorg, vaccination was started as early as 1865 and in 1879, the vaccination department was re-organised. In 1883, vaccination was made compulsory and it was introduced in the municipal towns. Both the municipalities of Mercara and Virajpet worked towards the improvement of sanitation in their areas. A sanitary board was constituted in 1888 and it functioned till 1906. Vaccination

of the people in the villages and the school children was taken on hand and this became part of the regular duties under Public Health.

In 1898, a plague observation camp was opened at Kushalnagar and it was closed in 1901. Plague was severe in many places of South Coorg in this period and Dr. Bain, the Civil Surgeon, was appointed to be in charge of plague duty also and this arrangement continued up to 1908. Mr. Davidson was the Commissioner between 1902 and 1905, when he with Mr. P. L. Moore rendered yeoman service during the out-break of plague in Virajpet and other places. Between the years 1912 and 1917, an aggregate of Rs. 68,500 was sanctioned by the Government of India for expenditure on sanitary works. A generous bequest of certain sums was also made available by the public for providing model dwellings for the Gowlis who were living on the western slope of the fort hillock during this period.

Malaria was the common complaint with the people of Coorg. It was prevalent throughout the district and in such intensity that Coorg had been classed as a hyperendemic area. The people from the neighbouring districts of Mysore, Malabar and South Kanara were dreading to come to Coorg. People coming from outside the State used to be victims very soon of this malignant fever. Writing in 1870, the Rev. G. Richter refers to the dreaded Coorg fever which appeared at its worst in summer. This fever gave rise to various other complications in the human system, and therefore particular attention was paid by Government in combating this disease. The workers of coffee estates were generally men brought from outside districts and, with their scanty clothing, they used to fall an easy prey to malaria, specially during the times of heavy rains. The sale of quinine in five grain packets was introduced in 1896 at twenty-two post offices and this continued up to 1938. An idea of the very large number of persons suffering from malaria can be had by the fact that in 1903-04, quinine packets sold numbered 48,756.

Regular anti-malaria work was started in 1928 and was under the charge of an Assistant Health Officer then. But as stated above, the whole district was highly malarious and the conditions were getting worse every year. This was realised by Major General Sir Gordon Covell who put up a strong recommendation in 1946 to the Government of India to start a malaria unit in Coorg. Accordingly, a separate malaria unit was established in 1947 and a programme of work was drawn up with the approval of the Government of India. The State was divided into eight circles and each circle was placed under the charge of an inspector with sufficient number of field workers under him. The Government of India sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1,73,000 for expenditure in connection with malaria control work. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 50,000 was

set apart for the construction of a laboratory building. From 1947 to 1952, the total expenditure on the malaria department was Rs. 6.63 lakhs and the contribution from the Government of India during this period was Rs. 5.47 lakhs.

Indoor residual spraying of D.D.T. of every house and out-house throughout the State once in twelve weeks during the malaria transmission period, *i.e.*, from 1st October to 15th June every year, was undertaken. The spraying was carried out with the object of destroying malaria-carrying mosquitoes. The result of spraying was very effective and immediate. By 1952, the spleen rate was reduced to about five per cent and the incidence of acute malaria fell to 17 per thousand of the population. In view of the good results achieved, the Government of India started, in 1953, what is known as the National Malaria Control Programme and sanctioned a small unit to Coorg. Under this programme, the Central Government was to provide financial assistance from the Indo-American Fund in the form of supply of D.D.T., the most expensive part of the programme. The State Government was to meet the remaining expenditure under the scheme, such as the establishment charges and equipment. The main object of inaugurating the scheme was to control malaria on an all-India basis. The people of Coorg were not only grateful to the Government of India but they wished that the National Malaria Control Programme should be retained for ever and its benefits extended to every nook and corner. With the conquest of mosquitoes and malaria, thanks to D.D.T. and the Central Government for sanctioning this unit to Coorg, plague also had actually disappeared after the D.D.T. spraying was started. For the purposes of National Malaria Control Programme under the Technical Co-operation Agreement, Coorg was treated as a small unit and it constituted one of the two hundred units established in the country.

A separate Health Department was constituted in the year 1936 under the supervision of the Civil Surgeon of Coorg. The Civil Surgeon was given an allowance for this which he continued to draw till 1949. The Coorg Public Health Act I of 1943 was extended to the whole of Coorg in 1943. As stated above, the Civil Surgeon continued to be in charge of both the Medical and Public Health Departments till 15th January 1949, when the Public Health Department was placed under the Malaria Officer, whose post had been created in 1946. The designation of the vaccinators was changed to that of sanitary assistants. During the years 1940-1950, the Government spent Rs. 4.50 lakhs over the Public Health Department.

In the year 1951, there were two principal Government hospitals, one at Mercara and the other at Virajpet, eleven District Board allopathic hospitals and dispensaries at Somwarpet,

Fraserpet (now Kushalnagar), Sanivarasanthe, Suntikoppa, Murnad, Siddapur, Napoklu, Gonikoppal, Tithimathi, Balele, Srimangala, and three District Board Ayurvedic dispensaries at Bhagamandala, Hebbale and Kodlipet. There were in addition three bi-weekly dispensaries at Sampaje, Kannur and Hudikeri, and twelve weekly dispensaries at Nanjarajapatna, Valnur-Thyagathur, Herur, Chettalli, Ammathi, Madapur, Cheyyandane, Kutta, Kakkabe, Nelagi, Kargunda and Birunani.

Facilities for X-ray treatment were provided in the two principal hospitals. Dental clinics were also attached to these hospitals. Eye clinics were being conducted in the two principal hospitals as well as in the District Board hospital at Somwarpet on specified days in the week. Ambulance vans were stationed at the Mercara, Virajpet and Somwarpet hospitals. In-patient wards were attached to all the dispensaries except at Suntikoppa and Murnad, and the three Ayurvedic dispensaries. Midwives had been posted to all rural hospitals and dispensaries. There were, in all, fifteen rural midwives stationed in different centres to do maternity and child welfare work in addition to the midwives provided for the hospitals and dispensaries.

Till the year 1952, marked expansion in the medical facilities could not be undertaken for financial reasons. After the formation of the Ministry in March 1952, special attention was paid to the improvement of the medical facilities in the State. With effect from 1st April 1953, the medical institutions run by the District Board were taken over by the Government. The administrative set-up was re-organised in 1954. In November 1953, the designations of the Assistant Surgeons at Mercara and Virajpet were changed to Superintendents and they were given gazetted status. The designation and status of the Assistant Surgeon at Somwarpet was similarly changed in 1956. The Superintendents were placed in direct charge of the hospitals at these places.

A separate tuberculosis section was established at the headquarters hospital under the charge of a provincial tuberculosis officer and isolation facilities for in-patients were provided at Mercara, Virajpet and Somwarpet. There were thirty-seven isolation beds at Mercara, twenty-eight at Virajpet and sixteen at Somwarpet. B.C.G. vaccination was started by this unit in November 1953 and between November 1953 to 1956, 26,259 school children were tested and 19,245 were given B.C.G. vaccination. Among estate labourers, 30,236 were tested and 13,817 were vaccinated.

Under section 10 of the Plantation Labour Act, planters engaging more than 30 labourers and owning more than 25 acres of planted area had to provide medical facilities to labourers working under them, as prescribed by Government. But in view of

an agreement arrived at between the planters and the Government, the Government have undertaken to provide medical facilities as prescribed under the Act and the Coorg Plantations Labour Rules, to construct group hospitals at places where a large number of labourers are employed and to provide up-to-date medical facilities to them without any restriction or condition in all the hospitals in Coorg. The planters owning 25 acres or more of planted area and those employing more than 30 labourers at any time, have agreed to pay a non-recurring contribution of Rs. 15 per acre of plantation held by them and a recurring contribution of Rs. 5 per acre per annum towards the upkeep of the group hospitals.

The daily average number of out-patients treated in the hospital at Mercara in the year 1951-52 was 152 and the number of in-patients 222. The daily average number of out-patients treated in the hospital at Virajpet was 134 and in-patients 104. During the year 1951-52, there were a few ambulance cars, vans and trucks for the use of the Medical and Malaria Departments.

Coorg was free from plague from 1952 to 1956. Fumigation with cyanogas was carried out in houses in all villages. Bait poisoning with zinc sulphate was also carried out in a few places.

Coorg was free from cholera except for a few imported cases in 1954. Prompt measures were taken by the department to control the disease.

During the period 1052-56, one hundred and sixty persons were attacked by small-pox and forty-five persons succumbed to the disease. Most of these cases were imported due to the influx of labour population. Timely action was taken to prevent the spread of this disease. Primary and secondary vaccinations were also carried out regularly.

In the year 1953, the staff of the Medical Department consisted of one Civil Surgeon, two Assistant Surgeons, two lady Assistant Surgeons, nineteen Sub-Assistant Surgeons, one Tuberculosis Officer, eighteen compounders, thirty-six nurses and thirty-eight ward boys.

During the year 1958, the staff of the Public Health Department consisted of one Malaria and Health Officer, one Assistant Health Officer, one Assistant Entomologist, nine malaria inspectors, two sanitary inspectors, eight assistant sanitary inspectors, five insect collectors and sixteen others.

The number of in-patient beds that were available in the various civil hospitals in Coorg district, as on 1st January 1957, is furnished below :—

Civil Hospital.—

Mercara	..	251
Virajpet	..	190
Somwarpet	..	109
Kodlipet	..	14
Sanivarasanthe	..	14
Kushalnagar	..	14
Suntikoppa	..	12
Madapur	..	10
Bhagamandala	..	10
Napoklu	..	16
Murnad	..	8
Siddapur	..	26
Gonikoppal	..	14
Tithimathi	..	14
Balele	..	12
Srimangala	..	14
Kutta	..	24
Cheyyandane	..	7
Sampaje	..	10
Pollibetta	..	9

Coorg has a branch of the Indian Red Cross Society functioning at Mercara. In India, this society was started in 1920 and in Coorg in 1922. This association maintains some mid-wives to render service to the people in the rural parts. Baby shows and health exhibitions are conducted under the auspices of this association. Under the aegis of the United Nations Organisation, funds are collected for rendering help to children. This campaign was started in 1948. Tuberculosis seals are being sold in Coorg since 1950.

Considering its size and population, Coorg has been spending quite large amounts on schemes of public health and medical relief. The percentage of deaths is very low here and the general health and physique of the people remarkably good. The role of private agencies deserves special mention here. Large numbers of persons have made generous donations by way of constructing buildings for wards and dispensaries. Almost all the buildings were constructed by public donations and far too numerous are the names of the philanthropists to be mentioned here, including the donors of X-ray plants and other valuable equipments.

Vital Statistics.

In the early days, there was no special agency other than the Village Patels for the registration of births and deaths; these village officers were required to send monthly returns to the Taluk

Office from where the lists were transmitted to the District Office to be later forwarded to the Public Health authorities. With a view to secure better registration of details connected with births and deaths, rules were revised in 1915-16 according to which the inspecting officers had to scrutinise the entries in the actual registers. Again, in 1918, a new regulation was introduced to improve the system of collection, compilation and publication of vital statistics. It was based on the Madras Law of 1899. According to this new regulation, the entries with reference to births and deaths had to be certified by a technical officer after a sample check-up in the area concerned. This proved helpful in removing irregular and exaggerated entries.

The following statement shows the number of births and deaths registered during the years 1941-1962

Year		*Births*	*Deaths*
1941	..	3,868	3,854
1942	..	3,297	3,847
1943	..	3,199	3,429
1944	..	3,093	3,459
1945	..	3,116	3,148
1946	..	3,220	2,646
1947	..	3,063	2,545
1948	..	3,237	2,119
1949	.	3,865	2,090
1950	..	3,846	1,673
1951	..	3,624	1,729
1952	..	3,396	1,876
1953	..	3,790	2,174
1954	..	4,196	1,871
1955	..	4,643	1,973
1956	.	Figures not available.	
1957	..	5,272	2,286
1958	..	5,496	2,090
1959	..	5,713	1,795
1960	..	3,163	1,189
1961	..	3,195	1,132
1962	..	3,383	1,385

The chief causes of death were malaria, dysentery, diarrhœa, respiratory diseases and small-pox as could be seen from the following statement which shows deaths of persons, both men and women, in Coorg District from 1941 to 1950 :—

Year		Small-pox		Fevers		Dysentery and diarrhœa		Respiratory diseases	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1941	..	33	20	1,414	1,311	81	43	140	42
1942	..	65	48	1,393	1,320	79	39	82	49
1943	..	46	26	1,294	1,140	62	28	82	26
1944	..	53	31	1,409	1,216	72	49	62	38
1945	..	98	61	1,205	1,066	56	32	56	14
1946	..	43	47	968	811	38	34	51	44
1947	..	5	4	955	849	34	43	43	18
1948	..	3	2	807	744	26	11	35	16
1949	..	32	15	777	671	39	25	30	19
1950	..	1	..	491	465	48	30	45	28

Coorg was free from cholera and plague. Sporadic cases of typhoid were being reported from time to time both from rural and urban areas. The seasonal occurrence of small-pox cases was mostly imported. Immediate steps were taken by isolation and mass prophylactic vaccination of the labour force in and around the concerned estates.

The most common disease in Coorg prior to 1947 was malaria. The incidence of malaria per thousand of population was on an average at 247. The malaria unit which was established in 1947 by the Government of India carried out residual spraying of D.D.T. thrice a year in all houses throughout the State. The rate of malaria per thousand of population came down from 247 to 19 and the spleen rate throughout the State was reduced to less than five per cent. Spraying in Coorg district has been interrupted with effect from 1st July, 1957 and surveillance work has been taken up since then. D.D.T. spraying is carried out only where positive cases are reported. Most of the positive cases are found among the tribal people who have migrated from neighbouring States like Kerala. They were treated with anti-malaria drugs.

National Malaria Eradication Programme.

After the interruption of D.D.T. spraying in 1957, surveillance programme was in progress ; 54 malaria surveillance workers were doing fortnightly surveillance work in the district under the supervision of 14 malaria surveillance inspectors and senior and junior malaria inspectors. There is a reserve senior malaria inspector in the headquarter town who is looking after compilation returns and routine office work. This official assists in taking mass blood smears for examination. He also renders assistance to the reserve senior malaria inspector in the office work as well as in the laboratory work. The Coorg Malaria Unit has been sub-divided

into two units, *viz.*, South Coorg and North Coorg units, to look after the malaria surveillance work throughout the district. The activities of these units include residual insecticidal (D.D.T.) spraying, entomological surveys, spleen and parasite survey, laboratory work, anti-malaria treatment and malaria surveillance work.

Active malaria surveillance work.

During 1960-61, out of 13,425 fever cases investigated, 12,670 blood smears were collected and examined. Seven cases were found positive for malaria parasite. They were given radical treatment.

In 1960-61, one thousand cases were treated as clinical malaria cases, one hundred and eighty-eight blood smears were taken and examined. Out of undiagnosed 21,766 fever cases treated, 882 blood smears were collected and examined. All these were found to be negative for malaria parasite.

Passive malaria surveillance work.

Three hundred and forty-two children were examined for enlarged spleen, out of which twelve were found positive giving a spleen rate of 3.5 per cent. Out of 34,021 child smears examined, only two were found positive. Ninety smears from infants were collected and examined, and all were found negative. Among 2,573 mass smears examined, thirteen were found positive for malaria parasite.

All the twenty-two positive cases were encountered in the peripheral belts of the south-east portion of the district. This area was covered by intensive D.D.T. spraying from October to December, 1960 and from February to April, 1961. In the first round, the number of houses covered was 31,532 and 70,041 people were protected and 15,552 pounds of D.D.T. powder were used. In the second round, from February to April 1961, 30,576 houses were covered and 68,188 people were protected; 19,238 pounds of 75 per cent wettable D.D.T. powder were used for spraying.

Entomological collections

Out of the two senior field workers and five permanent junior field workers, six persons collect mosquitoes for five days in the week in five fixed villages in each sub-unit. All the surveillance workers do mosquito collection work in fixed as well as at random catching stations on Saturdays between 7-30 and 11-30 A.M.

The parasite positive cases were on the decline during 1960-61 as only 22 positive cases were encountered as against 148 in 1959-60 and 82 in 1958-59.

The expectation of the authorities of the Department of Public Health that malaria could be eradicated in Coorg district by the end of the Third Plan period has been almost fulfilled. From the achievements of the department in this direction, it can be safely

asserted that the residual infection, if any, that exists at present in the district, will be completely liquidated and malaria will no longer be a problem.

Coorg was one of the highly malarious areas of the western hills with a spleen rate of 58.2 per cent in 1947. In order to check the high incidence, control measures were adopted as far back as 1946. Residual indoor spraying of dwelling houses, cattle sheds and all other roofed structures was found to be the most potent weapon in the fight against the menace. D.D.T. spraying was started in 1947 and continued till 1957. It was interrupted from July, 1957 as the criteria for withdrawal of spraying were fulfilled and simultaneously, active surveillance operations were instituted from July, 1957.

The intention of surveillance work is to study the after effects of interruption of D.D.T. spraying on the course of malaria and on the mosquito population and to control the residual malaria, if any, in the community by treating all fever cases with anti-malaria drugs.

The surveillance work was carried out by a special organisation of workers who visited every month up to 1961 and fortnightly thereafter all houses within the area allotted to each one of them and detected the fever cases, if any, drew blood smears from all such fever cases and gave presumptive treatment.

The blood smears were examined by specially trained microscopists at the unit laboratory at Mercara, and if found positive for malaria parasite, the concerned officer would proceed to the spot and undertake epidemiological investigation, tracing out the source of infection and prescribe necessary treatment and take up focal spraying with D.D.T. Simultaneously, a blood survey was undertaken in the area.

The malaria eradication unit for Coorg was one of the ten units in the State proposed to be switched over from the consolidation stage phase to the maintenance phase from 1st April, 1964.

In the maintenance stage, a basic health worker and an auxiliary nurse would be appointed for every ten thousand people. These workers would also take care of health education and also attend to the vigilance work connected with the programmes for eradication of other communicable diseases and family planning.

As a result of the good work turned out in Coorg, it can be said that the area is free from the scourge, and according to an economic survey of the malaria control operation, it is estimated that each rupee spent on malaria control work has

resulted in a turn-out of Rs. 100 worth of national income and in the case of Coorg district, it is doubly so. The days of outsiders being afraid to come here due to the fear of malaria are gone and Coorg is now one of the healthiest spots in South India.

The National Malaria Eradication Programme Organisation with its headquarters at Mercara covers all the taluks of Coorg district, Hunsur and Periyapatna taluks in Mysore district and Bantwal, Puttur and Belthangadi taluks in South Kanara district.

The following table shows the common diseases for which the majority of patients have been treated in Coorg district.

Sl. No.	*Disease*	*Number treated*
1	Anaemia	1,66,587
2.	Influenza	1,10,000
3.	'Other' digestive diseases ..	51,304
4.	Scabies	28,104
5.	Dysentery (Amoebic)	26,200
6.	'Other' respiratory diseases ..	24,270
7.	Teeth and gum diseases ..	15,721
8.	Sprains and strains	15,438
9.	Ankylostomiasis	14,967
10.	Inflammatory diseases of eye ..	14,747

The above figures relate to 1960-61. The figures show that anaemia, influenza, 'other' digestive diseases, scabies, dysentery and 'other' respiratory diseases have the highest incidence.

Epidemics—Cholera.

Six hundred anti-cholera inoculations were done in the various hospitals of the district during 1960-61 as a preventive measure. There were no cases of cholera during that year. In the year 1961-62 also, there were no cases of cholera in the district and six hundred and twenty anti-cholera inoculations were done in the various hospitals and dispensaries as a preventive step.

Typhoid

T.A.B. vaccine inoculations effectively check typhoid fever. Two thousand and four hundred people in the district were given these inoculations during the year 1960-61. Necessary preventive steps were also taken in this regard.

Four hundred and sixty-four cases of typhoid were reported during 1961-62. Two thousand three hundred and sixty-three T.A.B. inoculations were done in the various hospitals and dispensaries in the district.

Small-pox

Six persons were attacked with small-pox during 1960-61 and one case proved fatal. Seven thousand eight hundred and seventy primary vaccinations and thirty thousand one hundred and thirty re-vaccinations were done during the year.

There were twenty-three attacks and three deaths due to small-pox in the district during 1961-62. Eleven thousand nine hundred and thirty-four primary vaccinations and ten thousand five hundred and nine re-vaccinations were done during 1961-62.

Plague

No case of plague was reported in Coorg district during the year 1961-62.

Public Health Organisation.

The District Health Officer is the officer in charge of the administration of the department in the district. He is responsible to the Director of Public Health in Mysore. Since 1st June, 1960, the District Health Officer is in over-all charge of all the medical institutions in the district except a few major institutions. He is a technical and administrative officer and deals with problems of health, control of epidemics, malaria eradication programme, maternity and child welfare, vital statistics, jatra sanitation, family planning programmes, environmental sanitation, health education, site inspections, curative services and laboratory work associated with public health. The District Health Officer, Coorg, is an *ex-officio* member of the two municipalities, *viz.*, Mercara and Virajpet. He attends the monthly meetings of the municipal councils and he tenders suitable advice on matters of hygiene and sanitation He also gives necessary suggestions regarding public health matters to the committees of the Notified Areas* and village panchayats. He is a touring officer constantly undertaking tours in the various parts of the district in connection with the public health activities.

The establishment associated with the office of the District Health Officer consists of three senior health inspectors, seven sanitary assistants, one senior clerk, three first division clerks, two second division clerks, one typist, two dalayats and eleven sweepers.

The staff associated with the National Malaria Eradication Programme consists of one Medical Officer of Health (Gazetted), one Assistant Unit Officer (non-medical), one senior clerk, one typist, three drivers, three cleaners, two dalayats, one sweeper, three senior malaria inspectors, two junior malaria inspectors, fourteen malaria surveillance inspectors, fifty-four malaria surveillance workers, one senior laboratory technician, two junior laboratory technicians, two superior field workers, five fieldmen and one chowkidar. The Medical Officer of Health, National Malaria Eradication Programme, is in over-all charge of the programme both technically and administratively regarding the work

* These are now functioning as Town Municipal Councils.

of malaria eradication and is a subordinate officer to the District Health Officer, Coorg, Mercara.

Health Units

Mysore has been a pioneer State in establishing health units in rural areas. It has been the policy of Government to render both curative and preventive services through the health units. They are established at the taluk or hobli level to serve a fixed population of the taluk. The health units are of two types, health units of Mysore pattern and health units of Government of India pattern. The main difference between these two is that the Government of India pattern health units serve a population of about 60,000, whereas that of the Mysore type about 10,000 to 15,000 depending upon the terrain.

There are only three health units of the Government of India type in Coorg district. They are located at Suntikoppa, Hudikeri and Napoklu. They are under the control of the District Health Officer, Coorg. The staff associated with a Government of India pattern health unit consists of one Medical Officer of Health (Gazetted), four mid-wives, one public health nurse or health visitor, one compounder, one junior health inspector and two dalayats. The centres at Hudikeri and Suntikoppa are assisted by the UNICEF.

Since 1957, as a policy, only Government of India type health units are being established. A number of these are receiving Central Government and international assistance.

The main activities of these health units consist of curative services, including clinical work in the sub-centres, prevention and control of communicable diseases, improvement of environmental sanitation, malaria eradication, collection of vital statistics, family planning, maternity and child health works, health education and surveys, making proper sanitary arrangements in connection with fairs and festivals, and supply of drugs and diet supplements to the vulnerable groups of the rural population. Each of these Central pattern health units has to serve the whole of the Community Development Block which will have three sub-centres located at selected villages in the block area.

All the medical institutions in the district are under the control of the District Health Officer, except the Civil Hospitals at Mercara, Somwarpet and Virajpet which are under the control of the Surgeons with their headquarters at Mercara and Virajpet. The following medical institutions, *viz.*, the civil hospitals at Bhagamandala, Sampaje, Murnad, Chettalli, Shantalli, Sanivarasanthe, Kodlipet, Madapur, Kushalnagar, Marenad, Pollibetta, Gonikoppal, Balele, Tithimathi, Cheyyandane, Siddapur, Srimangala, the group hospital at Kutta, the forest dispensaries at Kalahalla and Murkal, the mobile health unit at Kalahalla, the

weekly dispensaries at Kadanga, Nanjarajapatna, Sirangala and Ammathi, the bi-weekly dispensaries located at Kargunda, Kakkabe and Peraje and the primary health centres of the Government of India type situated at Suntikoppa, Napoklu and Hudikeri, the civil dispensaries at Kannur and Hebbale and the Gramasevak Training Centre Dispensary located at Kudige, are functioning under the control of the District Health Officer.

The District Laboratory located at Mercara is also under the administrative control of the District Health Officer.

A table showing the strength of the staff associated with the medical institutions under the control of the District Health Officer, Coorg District, as on 1st April 1964, is appended at the end of this chapter. (Table-A).

Family Planning.

This is a programme for family limitation and population control. The importance of family planning was recognised by the Government of Mysore as far back as 1930 by the starting of birth control clinics in major hospitals which, incidentally, have the distinction of being the first Government family planning clinics in India.

With a view to making family planning widely popular in the State, the State Family Planning Board was formed during 1957 with the Minister for Public Health as the President. A full-time officer designated as State Family Planning Officer is in charge of the family planning programme. A large number of family planning units have been started during the First and Second Five-Year Plan periods. Facilities have been provided in all major hospitals of the State and in the District Hospitals for sterilisation operations free of cost. Vasectomy camps are being organised in the taluk headquarters, at the dispensaries, at health centres and in the villages. Contraceptives are made available for free distribution among the needy public at all family planning clinics, hospitals and dispensaries throughout the State. Expert medical advice on methods of family planning to married persons who require such advice and to such of those women, who in the opinion of the medical officer, cannot undergo the strain of pregnancy and parturition without danger to health, is provided in these medical institutions.

There are three family planning clinics attached to the civil hospitals of Mercara, Virajpet and Somwarpet in Coorg district. It is proposed to have three more centres at Hudikeri, Napoklu and Suntikoppa. Whenever stocks of contraceptives are received at the District Health Office, arrangements are made to supply them to the various hospitals and dispensaries in the district with a view to distributing them among the people and educating them in the matter.

A District Family Planning Committee has been formed with the Deputy Commissioner of Coorg as President, the District Surgeon as the Vice-President and the District Health Officer as the Secretary. The other members of the committee are the presidents of the two municipalities, Mercara and Virajpet, three local members of the Legislative Assembly, the presidents of the Mahila Samajas of Somwarpet and Virajpet and a member of the Project Implementing Committee, Ponnampet.

Laboratories

There are two laboratories attached to the Public Health Department in the district of Coorg. They are: (1) the District Health Laboratory which functions under the control of the District Health Officer and (2) the laboratory attached to the National Malaria Eradication Programme. The latter functions under the control of the Medical Officer of Health, National Malaria Eradication Programme.

The establishment of the District Health Laboratory consists of one Medical Officer (Gazetted), four laboratory technicians, four laboratory attendants, one sweeper and one dalayat.

Maternity and Child Health services.

The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund and World Health Organisation under the Maternity and Child Health Nursing Project have continued their assistance in increasing the Maternity and Child Health Services in the State by providing transport, equipment, drugs and diet supplements to the Health Units. The two international experts, *viz.*, the Senior Officer, World Health Organisation and Nursing Adviser continued to work in the State. The maternity and child health centres render both institutional and domiciliary services. The services comprise ante-natal, natal, post-natal care, and infant and child care including milk-feeding programme.

The maternity and child welfare centres in the district are located in the following places: Bhagamandala, Kargunda, Napoklu, Cheyyandane, Murnad, Makut, B. Shettigeri, Gonikoppal, Ponnampet, Marenad, Hudikeri, Srimangala, Kutta, Murkal, Balele, Tithimathi, Siddapur, Halgunda, Suntikoppa, Kushalnagar, Hebbale, Somwarpet, Virajpet, Mercara, Madapur, Sanivarasanthe, Kodlipet, Shantalli and Sampaje

Medical education and auxiliary training.

During the year 1959, a training school for nurses at Mercara was sanctioned by Government. During that year, six nurses were deputed by Government for training in Sister Tutors' Course at Delhi and Madras. All the six, after return, were posted to the training schools at Gulbarga, Mercara and Hubli hospitals.

Training of midwives.

The training of candidates as midwives was continued as usual during 1959. The Civil Hospital at Virajpet was a training centre for midwives during 1959. During the year 1960, two

auxiliary nurse-midwives training schools were started at the Civil Hospitals at Mercara and Virajpet. Forty candidates underwent training in both the places under the Sister Tutors in charge.

Training and education.

One senior malaria inspector and two junior malaria inspectors were deputed to undergo training in Malariology at the Malaria Training Centre, Mandya, for a period of six weeks during 1960. One senior laboratory technician and two junior laboratory technicians were also deputed to undergo training in Malariology at Mandya for a period of four weeks during the months of January and February, 1961.

Health education.

During the years 1960-61 and 1961-62, this important activity was continued as in the previous years. The members of the health staff have utilised every opportunity to meet groups of persons in the villages during their itineration and talk to them about various health subjects, sometimes giving practical demonstrations with reference to chlorination of water, vaccination and D.D.T. spraying. The District Health Officer attended the Village Leaders' Camps held under the auspices of the Community Development Programmes and he has utilised the opportunities to bring home to the people the necessity of taking good nutritious food, taking effective steps to prevent the out-break of communicable diseases and the using of hand-flush latrines.

Special activities—Fairs and Festivals.

The following jatras, *viz*., the Cauvery Jatra, the Irrupu, the Kakotuparambu, the Igguthappa and Peraje jatras, the Kushalnagar cattle fair, the Kutta jatra, the Subrahmanya jatra at Nalkeri village, the Yammenadu jatra and the Gudugalale jatra were held in the district during 1961-62. During these jatras suitable sanitary arrangements were made by the Public Health staff and the concerned local bodies. All the jatras passed off very successfully and without any untoward events.

Housing and water supply.

Necessary advice was given to the people from time to time to improve the housing conditions both in rural and urban areas. The new sites which were granted by the municipalities and the Notified Area Committees were inspected by the District Health Officer and the senior health inspectors during the course of their inspection tours in the district. The Public Health Department, Coorg, is in charge of the rural drinking water supply schemes in the district. In the urban areas, schemes for the supply of protected drinking water are being attended to by the municipalities. So far, piped water supply has been provided in Mercara, Suntikoppa, Kushalnagar, Sanivarsanthe, Murnad, Hebbale and Chettalli. In other places in the district, schemes are being worked out with a view to providing protected water supply to the people. Necessary instructions were issued to the public to use hand-pounded rice instead of polished rice. Schools

were inspected and necessary sanitary certificates were issued according to rules after inspection by the District Health Officer.

Hotels, bakeries and the factories manufacturing aerated waters are being inspected frequently by the health inspectors of the department. Strict steps are being taken to prevent the sale of articles of food exposed to flies and dust.

Medical organisation.

There are two Surgeons who are stationed at Mercara and Virajpet. They are directly responsible to the Director of Medical Services in Mysore. The Surgeon at Mercara is in charge of the civil hospitals located at Mercara and Somwarpet and the civil hospital at Virajpet is under the control of another Surgeon. Before June 1963, all the civil hospitals in the district were controlled by a single Surgeon.

The medical institutions at the taluk level have been transferred to the Public Health Department with effect from 1st June, 1960, as stated already.

The staff attached to the Headquarters Hospital at Mercara as on 10th June 1964 consisted of twenty-two doctors, twenty-six nurses, twelve compounders, twenty midwives, four technicians, seven clerks, one class III official and one hundred and one officials belonging to class IV.

The total strength of the staff attached to the Civil Hospital at Virajpet as on 5th June, 1964, was seventy-five as reported by the Surgeon, Civil Hospital, Virajpet.

The total strength of the staff associated with the Civil Hospital at Somwarpet as on 15th June, 1964, was thirty-four as reported by the Medical Officer, Civil Hospital, Somwarpet.

There is a Surgeon for the women and children's hospital and a Resident Medical Officer for the civil hospital at Mercara. There is also one T.B. Officer and one Assistant T.B. Officer for the T.B. Unit and clinic at the district headquarters.

There are two medical officers in charge of the two taluk hospitals at Somwarpet and Virajpet. These medical officers attend to the professional work of these hospitals as well as their administration.

The headquarters hospitals are also teaching institutions for training the auxiliary-nurse-midwives, other nurses and compounders. Two separate hostels are also provided for the men and women nurse trainees.

A table showing the number of medical institutions, as on 1st January 1963, in Coorg District, their bed strength, the strength

of doctors, nurses, midwives, the amounts expended with reference to each institution and the daily average number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the various institutions, is appended at the end of this chapter (Table-B).

Two of these institutions are voluntary agencies rendering medical aid to the people in rural areas. They are the Ramakrishna Seva Ashram Aided Hospital, Ponnampet, run by the Sri Ramakrishna Mission authorities and the Group Estate Non-Aided Dispensary, Cooverkolli.

Sri Ramakrishna Seva Ashram Hospital, Ponnampet.

This medical institution was established in the year 1947 by the authorities of the Sri Ramakrishna Ashram at Ponnampet. There were thirty beds, fourteen for men and sixteen for women and children, in the hospital as on 24th April, 1964. There were one doctor, one nurse and one midwife in the hospital. Seventy-five to one hundred out-patients attend the institution every day. As on 24th April, 1964, there were eleven in-patients under treatment in the hospital.

The average annual expenditure of the hospital amounts to about Rs. 35,000. Government meet one-fourth of this expenditure. The Notified Area Committee, Ponnampet, contributes Rs. 600 every year towards the maintenance of this hospital. The Government of India gave a grant of Rs. 15,000 towards the maintenance of the institution and Rs. 3,600 for purchasing books to the library attached to the Ashram during 1961-62. Books and journals are supplied to the patients in the hospital. The hospital is rendering great service to the people of the area. There is also X-ray facility in the hospital.

Municipal Dispensary, Mahadeopet, Mercara.

This institution is under the control of both the Government and the local municipality. The staff associated with this institution, as on 1st June 1964, consisted of one doctor, one compounder, two midwives and one dalayat-*cum*-sweeper.

The following table shows the number of out-patients treated in the institution during the years 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64.

Year	*Number of out-patients treated*
1961-62	.. 38,686
1962-63	.. 36,206
1963-64	.. 36,666

Jail Dispensary, Mercara.

This institution functions under the control of the Medical Officer, District Jail, Mercara.

The following statement shows the number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the institution during 1961-62 to 1963-64.

Year		In-patients	Out-patients
1961-62	..	27	2,334
1962-63	..	35	2,675
1963-64	..	33	1,597

The number of doctors employed in Coorg district, as on 1st January 1961, was sixty-eight consisting of fifty-nine men doctors and nine lady doctors.

The total number of beds in the various medical institutions, as on 1st January 1961, was 1,145 for men, 524 for women and 621 for children. The total number of in-patients treated in the district during 1960-61 was 39,384 and the total number of out-patients treated during 1960-61 was 7,48,183. The number of parturition cases conducted during 1960-61 was 1,808, and the number of surgical operations conducted during the same year was 30,878.

The following statement shows the number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the various departments of the Head-quarters Hospital at Mercara, the number of cases examined in the laboratory and the number of cases dealt with in the Radiological section of the hospital during the years 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64.

			1961-62		1962-63		1963-64	
		..	In-patients	Out-patients	In-patients	Out-patients	In-patients	Out-patients
1.	Laboratory work	..	22,083		22,136		22,445	
2.	T. B. Diseases	..	111	1,177	96	1,226	108	1,167
3.	Diabetics Clinic	..	..	18	..	21	..	15
4.	Dental Clinic	.	23	639	16	508	15	465
5.	Opthalmic Section	..	26	542	12	534	31	372
6.	E.N.T.	..	56	529	39	417	36	579
7.	V.D. Clinic	..	4	31	1	9	..	21
8.	Radiological-X-ray	..	678		774		566	

The following statement shows the number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the various departments of the Civil Hospital at Somwarpet, the number of cases examined in the laboratory, and the number of cases dealt with in the Radiological section of the hospital during the years 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64.

..	1961–62		1962–63		1963–64	
	In-patients	*Out-patients*	*In patients*	*Out-patients*	*In-patients*	*Out-patients*
1. T.B. Diseases ..	45	..	43	..	35	..
2. Dental Clinic .	.	152	..	524	..	498
3. Opthalmic Section ..	..	300	..	100	..	500
4. Radiological—						
X-ray ..	300		100		250	
Screenings ..	750		450		..	
Motion ..	300		350		200	
Urine Examination	230		750		625	
Blood Examination	100		75		..	

The following statement shows the number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the various departments of the Civil Hospital at Virajpet during the years 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64.

..	1961–62		1962–63		1963–64	
	In-patients	*Out-patients*	*In-patients*	*Out-patients*	*In-patients*	*Out-patients*
1. T.B. Diseases ..	60	130	115	184	95	213
2. Dental Clinic .	..	2,147	.	2,088	..	2,233

The following table shows the number of major and minor operations, the number of in-patients and out-patients treated and the total expenditure incurred by the Headquarters Hospital at Mercara, during the years 1961, 1962 and 1963.

Year	*Major Operations*	*Minor Operations*	*Total in patients treated*	*Total out-patients treated*	*Total expenditure incurred*
					Rs.
1961 ..	140	3,618	59,495 (Av. 163 per day)	77,015 (Av. 211 per day)	3,99,465
1962 ..	168	3,946	61,020 (Av. 168 per day)	80,300 (Av. 220 per day)	3,42,795
1963 ..	119	2,751	61,695 (Av. 169 per day)	84,315 (Av. 231 per day)	3,97,630

The total bed strength in the Headquarters Hospital, Mercara, as on 1st June 1964, consisted of 200 beds for men, 173 beds for women and twenty-seven beds for children.

The following table shows the total number of in-patients and out-patients treated, the number of major and minor operations conducted and the number of parturition cases conducted in the Civil Hospital at Somwarpet during the years 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64. It also shows the total number of bed strength and strength of the staff as on 15th June, 1964, and the total expenditure incurred during 1963-64 by the hospital.

Year	*In-patients*	*Out-patients*	*Major Operation*	*Minor Operation*	*Parturition*
1961-62 ..	52,066	55,473	202	1,321	439
1962-63 ..	53,237	72,369	142	1,136	373
1963-64 ..	39,535	61,478	15	350	363

The total number of beds. 120.
The strength of the staff as on 1st May 1964. 34 *
The total expenditure for 1963-64. Rs. 1,23,523.

The following table shows the total number of in-patients, out-patients treated, the number of parturition cases attended to, the number of major and minor operations done, the total number of bed strength, the total expenditure incurred by the Civil Hospital at Virajpet during 1963-64, and the total strength of the staff during the years 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64.

Particulars	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64
1. Total number of in-patients treated	6,172	6,336	5,446
2. Total number of out-patients treated.	49,874	54,091	55,986
3. Total number of parturition cases attended.	687	602	605
4. Total number of major and minor operations.	3,345	3,586	3,990
5. Total number of bed strength ..	230	230	230
6. Total expenditure incurred (Rs).	1,83,788	1,57,435	1,80,440
7. Total strength of staff	70	71	75*

* Includes Classes I, II, III and IV.

The following table shows the number of major and minor operations done, the total strength of the staff functioning as on 1st June 1964, the total number of beds and the total expenditure incurred by the Civil Hospital at Somwarpet during 1963-64.

Operations		1961-62	1962-63	1963-64
Major	..	396	175	21
Minor	..	1,409	1,051	383

The strength of the staff functioning in the hospital ..	42
The total number of beds as on 1st June, 1964 ..	140
The total expenditure incurred by the hospital for 1963-64.	Rs. 55,000

The X-ray plant, the Ultra-Violet Lamp, Infra-Red Lamp, Boyle's Anæsthesia apparatus and the High Pressure Steam sterilizers constitute some of the modern equipments provided in the Civil Hospital at Mercara to facilitate the medical treatment given to the patients in Coorg district.

The Civil Hospitals at Mercara, Virajpet and Somwarpet, the Government Hospitals at Kodlipet, Hebbale, Sanivarasanthe, Kushalnagar, Suntikoppa, Madapur, Shanthalli, Sampaje, Bhagamandala, Napoklu, Cheyyandane, Murnad, Siddapur, Pollibetta, Gonikoppal, Tithimathi, Srimangala, Balele, Chettalli and Kutta, and the Government Dispensaries at Marenad, Hudikeri and Kanoor also function as anti-rabic treatment centres in Coorg district.

Private Medical Practitioners.

There were three private Homœopathic, three Allopathic, five Ayurvedic doctors and one Unani doctor practising their respective systems of medicine at Mercara, during 1960-61.

At Virajpet, one Homœopathic, one Allopathic, two Ayurvedic and one Unani private doctors and at Somwarpet, one Homœopathic, one Allopathic and one Ayurvedic doctors were having their private practice, during 1960-61. There was also one private nursing home at Virajpet.

Third Five-Year Plan Programmes.—The various schemes sanctioned and implemented during the Second Five-Year Plan period are being continued during the Third Five-Year Plan period also with a view to providing enhanced medical and health facilities to the people of the district. A total financial outlay of Rs. 0.94 lakh has been provided under the Health Programme during the

Third Plan period. It is proposed to start three more rural family planning centres attached to the Primary Health units at a cost of Rs. 0.34 lakh. A sum of Rs. 0.50 lakh has been provided for the continuance of the District Health Laboratory, and a sum of Rs. 0.10 lakh has been provided for the functioning of the District Family Planning Committee in the district.

A total financial allocation of Rs. 1.69 lakhs has been made for the expansion of the various medical facilities existing in the medical institutions in the district. It is proposed to start one V. D. clinic with twelve beds at the District Headquarters Hospital with the necessary staff and equipments at a cost of Rs. 0.50 lakh. It is proposed to purchase one station wagon jeep for domiciliary work in connection with Tuberculosis work at a cost of about Rs. 0.18 lakh and to open one more T. B. clinic attached to one of the hospitals under the Public Health Department, Coorg, and for this purpose, Rs. 0.32 lakh have been provided. A provision of Rs. 0.50 lakh has been made for equipping the major and the teaching hospitals. It is proposed to go in for a portable X-ray unit for the Women and Children's Hospital, and necessary additional instruments and equipment for the District Headquarters Hospital, and it is also intended to establish a laboratory at the training school for nurses. For the provision of adequate ambulance services, a sum of Rs. 0.10 lakh has been earmarked.

The various schemes are being duly implemented by the Public Health and Medical Departments of Coorg district

TABLE—A

Statement showing the staff strength in the medical institutions under the control of the District Health Officer, Coorg District as on 1st April 1964.

Sl. No.	*Name of the hospital/dispensary*		*Medical officer*	*Compounder*	*Midwife*	*Dalayat*	*Ward Boy*	*Ayah*	*Cook*	*Sweeper*	*Waterman*	*Driver*	*Junior health inspector.*	*Health Visitors*	*Social Workers*	*Bed Strength*
1.	Civil Hospital, Srimangala	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	12
2.	Do Madapur	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	18
3.	Do Tithimathi	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	14
4.	Do Murnad	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	17
5.	Civil Dispensary, Kanoor	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	.	..	..	..	..	..
6.	Do Bhagamandala	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	10
7.	Civil Dispensary, Sanivarasanthe	..	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	30
8.	Primary Health Centre, Suntikoppa	..	2	1	4	2	1	1	1	2	..	1	1	1	1	12
9.	Primary Health Centre, Hudikeri	..	1	1	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	6
10.	Primary Health Centre, Napoklu	..	1	1	4	2	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	22
11.	Group Hospital, Kutta		2	1	2	1	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	24

TABLE-A—(*Contd.*)

12.	Civil Hospital, Kushalnagar	..	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	14
13.	Do Chettalli	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	10
14.	Do Balele	..	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	12
15.	Do Sampaje	..	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	20
16.	Do Kodlipet	..	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	..	.	..	..	..	14
17.	M. T. H. Kalhalla	..	1	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..
18.	Civil Dispensary, Hebbale	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19.	Civil Hospital, Cheyyandane	..	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	.	..	..	..	..	9
20.	Do Marenad	..	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	8
21.	Do Siddapur	..	2	2 ..	2 + Staff Nurse	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	40
22.	Do Shanthalli	.	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	8
23.	Do Polibetta	..	1	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	10
24.	Do Gonikoppal		2	1	4	..	2	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	46
25.	Murkal Dispensary	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26.	G.T.C. Dispensary, Kudige		..	1	..	..	..	..	..	.	..	..	..	..	..	..
27.	Forest Dispensary, Kallahalla	.	..	1	1	1	..	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE—B

Statement showing the number of hospitals and dispensaries in Coorg District with beds, doctors, nurses, midwives, expenditure and average number of in-patients and out-patients as on 1st January 1963.

Sl. No.	Name of hospital/dispensary	Location	Beds	No. of doctors	No. of nurses	No. of midwives	No. of compounders.	Expenditure	Daily average number of In-patients.	Daily average number of Out-patients.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
								Rs.		
1.	Civil Hospital	Mercara	200	15	26	8	6	1,99,465	168.5	220.2
2.	Women and Children's Hospital	do	200	7		12	6	1,05,197	150.6	82.5
3.	T. B. Clinic	do	..	1		1	2	8,625	37.0	4.0
4.	T. B. Ward									
5.	Jail Dispensary	do	..	1	..	..	..	..	0.1	7.3
6.	Municipal Dispensary	do	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	109.2
7.	Civil Hospital	Balele	12	1	Ayah 1	2	1	10,376	5.7	34.1
8.	Government Hospital	Bhagamandala	10	1	do 1	2	1	16,323	5.3	60.4
9.	Do	Cheyyandane	9	1	do 1	1	1	11,765	6.6	42.3
10.	Do	Chettalli	10	1	do 1	1	1	17,043	8.8	102.1
11.	Non-Aided Dispensary	Cooverkolli	10	1	..	1	1	12,132	0.1	72.9
12.	Government Hospital	Kushalnagar	14	1	Ayah 1	2	1	20,939	13.0	84.4
13.	Do	Gonikoppal	45	2	do 1	4	1	34,415	33.4	114.5
14.	Government Dispensary	Hebbale	..	1	1	1	1	9,065	..	43.8
15.	Do	Hudikeri	6	1	1	4	1	18,071	..	64.0
16.	Do	Kadanga	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	39.0
17.	Forest Dispensary	Kalhalla	..	1	..	2	1	7,053	..	45.6

No.	Institution	Place								
18.	Do	Kanoor	..	..	..	2	1	5,001	..	59.0
19.	Do	Kargunda	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	30.0
20.	Government Hospital	Kodlipet	14	1	Ayah 1	2	1	17,478	9.6	72.4
21.	Do	Kutta	24	2	do 1	2	1	22,817	16.4	96.0
22.	Do	Madapur	19	1	do 1	2	1	19,937	13.0	61.3
23.	Government Dispensary	Marenad	8	1	do 1	2	1	6,857	..	33.4
24.	Government Forest Dispensary	Murkal	..	..	..	1	1	4,665	..	23.4
25.	Government Hospital	Murnad	18	1	Ayah 1	2	1	20,151	16.4	112.0
26.	Do Dispensary	Nanjarajapatna	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.11
27.	Government Hospital	Napoklu	22	1	Ayah 1	4	1	20,914	6.7	89.8
28.	Do	Pollibetta	10	1	do 1	..	1	..	..	..
29.	Aided Hospital (Sri Ramakrishna Seva Ashram).	Ponnampet	24	1	1	1	1	49,941	22.9	62.4
30.	Government Hospital	Sampaje	20	1	Ayah 1	1	1	8,063	5.0	32.2
31.	Do	Sanivarasanthe	30	2	do 1	3	1	23,654	16.0	81.5
32.	Do	Shanthalli	8	1	1	1	1	..	5.9	15.1
33.	Do	Siddapur	40	2	Ayah 1	2	2	28,892	45.0	190.8
34.	Government Dispensary	Sirangala	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.0
35.	Civil Hospital	Somwarpet (35–38)	120	6	5	4	3	1,29,424	145.8	198.3
36.	Women's Hospital									
37.	Dental Clinic									
38.	T. B. Clinic									
39.	Government Hospital	Srimangala	12	1	Ayah 1	2	1	12,954	4.6	46.7
40.	Do	Suntikoppa	12	2	do 1	4	1	..	..	..
41.	Do	Tithimathi	14	1	Ayah 1	1	1	12,254	10.9	54.8
42.	Civil Hospital	Virajpet (42–45)	230	10	10	13	4	1,83,768	185.2	236.9
43.	Women's Hospital									
44.	Dental Clinic									
45.	T. B. Clinic									

Coorg District—		
	Hospitals ..	26
	Dispensaries ..	19
	Total ..	45

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

Labour Welfare.

COORG is a small district with a population of 3,22,829 people, according to the 1961 Census. Of these, 30,610 people belonged to the Scheduled Castes and 27,102 belonged to the Scheduled Tribes. The majority of them are labourers working either in paddy fields, plantations or in the forest areas. Apart from this, there are about 40,000 people working in the plantations as regular labourers. These labourers were a neglected set in the past, when some of the unscrupulous masters used to take the best out of them and give very little in return. Wages were low and welfare measures were very inadequate. Only a few honest and good employers looked after the labourers well, and the rest fell into the category of masters whose sole aim was to take maximum work out of the labourers, make money, and do nothing for those who were really responsible for their wealth and prosperity. This situation was, however, in existence all over the country and was not peculiar to Coorg.

Immediately after the popular ministry came into office in the year 1952, the Government of Coorg realised that freedom had no meaning unless the people in the lower rungs of society and the hard-working labourers were looked after properly and their standard of life improved. Therefore, special measures were taken to improve the lot of labourers falling under the different categories, and the Labour Welfare Department under the control of the Labour Commissioner was entrusted with this task.

The labourers in Coorg can be classified into two categories, *viz.*, the unattached labourers and the attached labourers. The unattached labourers are those who work on contract basis and have no permanent lien in the service of any single master. They work and earn wages at will. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes come mostly under this category. The attached labourers are those who work in the plantations (coffee, cardamom and rubber plantations). The Labour Welfare Department which consists of the Labour Welfare Officer and his assistants, working

under the guidance of the Labour Commissioner, is in charge of the work connected with the welfare of both the attached and unattached labourers.

The various labour laws which were in force in the ex-State of Coorg were :—

(1) The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.
(2) The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.
(3) The Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933.
(4) The Payment of Wages Act, 1936.
(5) The Employment of Children Act, 1938.
(6) The Weekly Holidays Act, 1942.
(7) The Industrial Statistics Act, 1942.
(8) The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946.
(9) The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.
(10) The Factories Act, 1948.
(11) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948.
(12) The Plantations Labour Act, 1951
and
(13) The Working Journalists (Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1956.

Besides the above mentioned Acts, certain sections of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, were also in force in Coorg, but the Act as a whole had not been extended to this State.

All the above Acts are Central enactments and the ex-State of Coorg had not enacted any separate labour legislation. These Acts continued to be in force even after the merger of Coorg with Mysore. In addition, the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952, and the Maternity Benefit Act, 1959 were also brought into force in Coorg, after the States' Reorganisation.

The salient features of some of these important Acts are indicated below :—

The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, provides for the settlement of industrial disputes by mediation, conciliation, adjudication and arbitration. There is scope for payment of compensation in cases of lay-off and retrenchment.

The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, is another important piece of legislation which aims at defining precisely the conditions of employment, and to make such conditions known to workmen. These rules once certified are binding on the parties for a minimum period of six months.

The Trade Unions Act, 1926 recognises the right of workers to organise into trade unions for purposes of collective bargaining.

These unions, when registered, have certain rights and obligations, and are autonomous bodies.

The Factories Act, 1948 regulates the working conditions in establishments which employ a minimum number of 10 workers in factories using power, and a minimum number of 20 workers in factories not using power.

The Plantations Labour Act, 1951 covers the plantation workers and goes further to provide them with housing accommodation, drinking water facilities, etc.

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 ensures the fixation and revision of minimum rates of wages in respect of certain scheduled industries involving hard labour.

The Payment of Wages Act, 1936 guarantees payment of wages to workers on fixed wage periods, and also prevents the employers from effecting unauthorised deductions.

The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 contemplates the provision of medical benefits, and payment of sickness benefit to insured workers in case of sickness, indisposition, disability, etc.

The Maternity Benefit Act, 1959 provides for the payment of maternity benefit to women workers for a period of four weeks before and four weeks after confinement. This period of eight weeks is proposed to be enhanced to 12 weeks so as to make this legislation fall in line with the international standards.

The Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952 provides for retirement benefits to workers.

Besides, there are several other legislative enactments which are being enforced in respect of labour. In the field of legislation, the State has adopted a progressive policy, and is keeping pace with the labour policy of the Government of India and the standards laid down by the International Labour Organisation. These laws also deal with the regulation of industrial relations between the management and the workers.

Administration.

The Labour Officer, Coorg, is the officer in charge of the administration of the Labour Department in the district. He works under the supervision and guidance of the Assistant Labour Commissioner and Conciliation Officer, Chikmagalur Division, and is responsible to the Commissioner of Labour in all matters pertaining to the administration of the Department.

Minimum wages for labour.

There are two Labour Inspectors with headquarters at Mercara and Virajpet to enforce the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, and the Rules framed thereunder and the provisions of the

Weekly Holidays Act and the Rules framed thereunder. They work under the direct control of the Labour Officer, Coorg.

Industrial disputes.

The Assistant Commissioner of Labour, Chikmagalur Division, Chikmagalur and the Labour Officer, Coorg, are the Conciliation Officers under the Industrial Disputes Act to bring about conciliation in disputes arising out of labour troubles. They are required to mediate under the law and submit reports regarding the outcome of their efforts, to their superior officers. If their attempts at conciliation fail, Government have discretionary powers to refer the disputes for adjudication, or the parties themselves may submit it jointly for arbitration even by a private arbitrator. The settlements and awards forthcoming from such conciliation, adjudication and arbitration proceedings are binding on the parties.

During the year 1963, 37 industrial disputes were reported in Coorg District of which 16 were settled amicably by conciliation, and nine by adjudication.

Factories and other establishments.

There is an Inspector of Factories with his headquarters at Mysore to enforce the provisions of the Factories Act, Payment of Wages Act and the Maternity Benefit Act, in the district. He is under the direct administrative control of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Boilers, Bangalore. It is the duty of the Inspector to see whether all the factories, coming under the purview of the Factories Act and the Rules thereunder, follow the statutory obligations imposed under them. In cases of any infringement, he takes action to bring them before a proper court of law.

There were 19 factories in Coorg District as on the 1st January 1964 employing 627 workers, the average number of workers in each factory being 33.

In addition to these factories, the number of workers employed in the various other establishments in the district, as on the 1st January 1964, was, as indicated below :—

Sl. No.	*Establishment*	*Number*	*Total number of workers employed*
1.	Commercial Establishments	98	480
2.	Shops	1,496	990
3.	Restaurants	196	540
4.	Cinema Theatres ..	9	78
	Total ..	1,799	2,088

Most of these shops and establishments were managed by the owners themselves.

Strikes and Lock-outs.

The following statement indicates the number of strikes, the number of workers involved and the number of man-days lost, during the years 1962-63 and 1963-64, pertaining to the district.

Year		*Number of Strikes*	*Number of workers involved*	*No. of man-days lost*
1962-63	..	4	211	211
1963-64	..	2	443	318

Trade Unions

The following nine trade unions registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act were functioning in the district, during the year 1964-65.

(1) Huvinakadu Estate Workers' Union, Kutta Post.
(2) Coorg District Estate Workers' Union, Mercara.
(3) All Coorg Scavengers and Sweepers' Union, Virajpet.
(4) All Coorg Local Body Employees' Association, Mercara.
(5) Coorg District General Workers' Union, Virajpet.
(6) Coorg Rubber Estates Workers' Union, Makut.
(7) Karnataka Plantations Shramika Sangha, Suntikoppa.
(8) Consolidated Coffe Estates Workers' Union, Pollibetta, and
(9) Coorg Estate Workers' and General Labourers' Union, Siddapur.

There were no employers' unions in the district.

Labour Welfare measures.

Apart from seeing that the labourers are paid fair wages as contemplated in the Minimum Wages Act, officers of the Labour Department often visit the plantations and inspect the welfare measures provided by the managements. Housing conditions, medical help, work conditions, sanitary and recreational measures, and educational facilities, are all inspected from time to time and where things are not up to the required standard, suggestions for improvement, both in writing and in person, are given to the managements and matters got rectified. Petty disputes are also sometimes attended to by the labour welfare staff with a view to giving immediate relief to the labourers. More serious disputes are settled by the Conciliation Officers under the Industrial Disputes Act.

During the visits to the labour lines by the labour welfare staff, the labourers are contacted by paying house-to-house visits, their difficulties are enquired into and the managements requested to rectify matters wherever necessary. During these visits, the labourers are also given advice to lead their lives on right lines. They are told that in addition to knowing their rights, they must

also know their responsibilities, and work with good understanding with their managements. The visits are made usually in the evenings as it is only then that the labourers return from work and are available for personal contacts. Quite a lot of time is spent amongst the labourers, and this has given them the confidence that Government is with them whenever they are in trouble, and whenever they have reasonable complaints to make.

The managements in several places have also now realised the changing conditions as well as their responsibilities towards the welfare of the labourers. Accordingly, they have improved the labour lines as per specifications, put up creches, provided recreational facilities, improved the sanitary and medical conditions and provided educational facilities to the children of their workers. But, it has to be said that these welfare measures have been carried out at a slow pace by most of the managements and require to be intensified.

In several cases, however, it was found that though the managements provided the required facilities, the labourers were averse to making use of them because they were not accustomed to such amenities. For example, the bath rooms and lavatories were found mostly unused. It was here that the Labour Welfare Department played its part in bringing to bear upon the minds of the labourers the need to make use of them. The labour welfare staff also saw to it that the Works committees functioned in the required form for the betterment of the labourers. Complaints of improper payment of wages and ill-treatment by estate staff were also enquired into, and to a large extent, immediate settlements were brought about, and good understanding between the managements and their labourers restored.

Labour Rallies

With a view to establishing a cordial atmosphere, labour rallies, which were a special feature in Coorg, were being organised on a planned scale by the Labour Welfare Department. Although the Government bore the entire cost of organising these rallies, the planters also co-operated fully in these celebrations to make them a success. They gave holidays to the labourers on the days of the rallies and met the cost of tea and other refreshments served to the competing mazdoors of the respective estates. Some planters had helped also to the extent of picking up their best sportsmen and giving them intensive training for the championship events held at these meets.

The labour rallies were days of rejoicing for the labourers, and they participated in them in large numbers. There was a free mingling of the labourers and their employers in these rallies, which served to establish friendship and good understanding between the employer and the employee.

Employees' Provident Fund Scheme. The Employees' Provident Fund Act is a Central Act passed in 1952 and the provisions of the Act and the schemes thereunder are made applicable to scheduled industries from time to time under certain conditions.

Every employee of an establishment to which the Provident Fund Scheme applies is eligible for membership of the Fund after completion of one year's continuous service or 240 days of actual work during a period of twelve months. Contribution at the rate of 6¼ per cent is deducted from the basic pay, dearness allowance (inclusive of cash value of food concessions if any, admissible) and retaining allowance of employees who get a pay of Rs. 1,000 per month or less. An amount equal to the workers' contribution is contributed by the employer every month. The expenses of administration and supervision of the Fund are met from the administrative and inspection charges. The employees may, however, at their option, raise their contribution to 8-1/3 per cent or more.

Under the amended Provident Fund Scheme, any employee who is not eligible to join the scheme, can also be now enrolled as a member, on the joint application of both the employer and the employee, provided that the employer agrees to pay his own share of the fund contribution and also administrative charges in respect of contributions of such employees.

According to an official notification issued in 1964, the rate of provident fund contribution by both the employers and workers has been increased from 6¼ per cent to 8 per cent in respect of eighteen industries including newspapers, with effect from the 31st October 1963. Six more industries have since been added to this list. The enhanced rate of contribution is applicable to such of those establishments which employed 50 or more persons. The industries coming under the purview of the notification include textiles, matches, electricity, tea, printing and heavy and fine chemicals excluding fertilizers. So far as newspapers are concerned, the enhanced rate of provident fund contribution is applicable to every newspaper establishment as defined in clause (*d*) of section 2 of the Working Journalists (conditions of service and miscellaneous provisions) Act, 1955 in which 50 or more persons are employed.

Provision has also been made under the scheme for grant of advances under certain conditions to the members for (i) financing life insurance policies, (ii) construction of houses and (iii) to defray medical expenses, from their share of contributions to the fund.

A sum of about Rs. 74,000 was being realised every month, as on the 1st June 1964, as the total contributions to the Fund,

in the district. Half of this sum represented the employees' share and the balance, that of the employers. This amount together with the three per cent administrative charges on the total contributions, is deposited in the nearest branch of the State Bank of India for being credited to the Provident Fund account, within the 15th of every month.

Two hundred and sixty-eight establishments in the district had been brought under the purview of the scheme, as on the 1st June 1964. The following table indicates the names of the important major establishments in the district, together with the number of employees in each of them, as on the 1st June 1964.

Sl. No.	*Name of the Establishment*	*No. of employees*
1.	M/s. Anaporai and Huvinkadu Estate, Kutta Post, Coorg	430
2.	M/s. Belgunda Estate, Somwarpet, North Coorg	204
3.	M/s. Balmany Estate, Tithimathi Post, Coorg ..	236
4.	M/s. Baljatrie Estate, Mercara, Coorg ..	208
5.	M/s. Cotebetta Group of Estates, Pollibetta P. O., Coorg	491
6.	M/s. Connanulad Estate, Siddapur, Coorg ..	202
7.	M/s. Coovercolly Group of Estates, Somwarpet, Coorg	626
8.	M/s. Chowdicadoo Estate, Siddapur, Coorg ..	195
9.	M/s. Dubarry Group of Estates, Pollibetta, Coorg	231
10.	M/s. Fairlands and Silipi Estates, Siddapur, Coorg	286
11.	M/s. Hardoor Estate, Suntikoppa, Coorg ..	209
12.	M/s. Korthikad Estate, Mercara, Coorg ..	200
13.	M/s. Koorehally Estate, Suntikoppa, Coorg ..	249
14.	M/s. Margolli Group of Estates, Pollibetta, Coorg	261
15.	M/s. Mullore Group of Estates, Suntikoppa, Coorg	454
16.	M/s. Pollibetta Group of Estates, Pollibetta, Coorg	420
17.	M/s. Netley Yemmingundy Estate, Suntikoppa Post, Coorg	255
18.	M/s. Raigodu Estate, Siddapur, Coorg ..	304
19.	M/s. Suntikoppa Estate, Suntikoppa, Coorg ..	465
20.	M/s. Taneerhullu Estate, Pollibetta, Coorg ..	280
21.	M/s. Wosully Group of Estates, Pollibetta, Coorg (together with Doddabetta and Hope) ..	458
22.	M/s. Wooligooli Estate, Suntikoppa, Coorg ..	234
23.	M/s. Yenigoondi Estate, Pollibetta, Coorg ..	606
24.	M/s. Kedamakal Estate, Mercara, Coorg ..	307
25.	M/s. Glen Lorn Tea Estate, Hudikeri, Coorg ..	491
26.	M/s. Guttaclahulla Estate, Pollibetta, Coorg ..	217
27.	M/s. Malagomany Estate, Pollibetta, Coorg ..	261
28.	M/s. Jamboor Group of Estates, Madapur, Coorg	525

The small income of the workers, generally, did not permit any scope for savings from their earnings. The result was that on their discharge from work, the workers were compelled to lead a life of utter helplessness. In the event of their death, their dependants became destitute. The Employees' Provident Fund Act providing for compulsory contribution of Provident fund is therefore a blessing for these workers and their families. The scheme provides for a substantial saving at the time of the retirement of the employee, and in the event of his premature death, secures ample relief to the members of his family.

Prohibition

It has been laid down in the Constitution as a directive principle of State policy, that the State shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption—except for medical purposes—of intoxicating drinks and drugs which are injurious to health. Drink has generally been responsible for the poverty and misery of man, sinking him lower and lower into depths of danger and despair. There is no gainsaying the fact that prohibition is a social as well as an economic necessity and it acts as the fulcrum and force in our economic programme for social amelioration.

Prohibition was first introduced in the district on 2nd April 1956, under Act I of 1956 of the Old State of Coorg, which prohibited the manufacture, possession, export, import, purchase, sale and consumption of intoxicating liquors and drugs. Though prohibition was formally inaugurated on the 2nd April 1956, effective enforcement began only on 25th April 1956, leaving reasonable time for consumers to adjust themselves to the new circumstances. All dealings in liquor and intoxicating drugs were prohibited except for medical, scientific, industrial or such like purposes. Permits for possession and consumption of liquor were issued only in exceptional cases; they were issued to (i) those who were accustomed to take liquor, (ii) non-proprietary clubs for sale to such of their members as held permits and (iii) the church authorities for sacramental purposes. Licences were also prescribed for the possession and sale of denatured and rectified spirits, of brandy and medicated wine by chemists, and for the possession of brandy in hospitals for medicinal purposes.

Government have sustained a loss of about twelve lakhs of rupees annually, consequent on the introduction of prohibition in the district.

The burden of implementing the Prohibition Act has fallen on the Police Department, in addition to their other regular duties. In addition to the Station staff, a separate staff of one Sub-Inspector and five Head Constables has also been sanctioned, with jurisdiction over the entire district and working under the direct control of the Superintendent of Police. One Assistant

Prohibition Officer and three Prohibition Inspectors are also working directly under the control of the Deputy Commissioner, their duties being confined to the issue and checking of liquor permits and other allied matters. The erstwhile Government of Coorg had opened three Police Stations and eight outposts for effectively dealing with the enforcement of prohibition, and had sanctioned an extra staff of three Sub-Inspectors, nine Head Constables and fifty-three Constables for the purpose.

There were eleven police stations and twelve out-posts in the district as on the 1st April 1964, and in addition to the regular police staff, there was a separate Prohibition Squad consisting of one Sub-Inspector and five Head Constables having jurisdiction over the entire district to deal with the enforcement of prohibition.

As is to be expected, illicit distillation followed in the wake of prohibition. According to the statistics furnished by the Superintendent of Police, Coorg District, the incidence of illicit distillation cases was high in the year 1962, 1846 cases having been detected during that year, of which 1,110 ended in conviction. The following table indicates the number of cases detected and the number in which convictions were given, during the years 1956 to 1963.

Year		*No. of cases detected*	*No. of cases in which convictions were given*
1956	..	26	23
1957	..	43	39
1958	..	313	230
1959	..	570	295
1960	..	480	356
1961	..	528	281
1962	..	1,846	1,110
1963	..	1,635	525

Since the bordering districts are all declared dry areas, no cases of smuggling have been reported.

Coorg district is situated in a hilly country enjoying cold weather in almost all the seasons of the year. A large number of its inhabitants were addicted to drink prior to the introduction of the Prohibition Act. In fact, on many occasions of festivals or social gatherings in Coorg, alcohol was served. But the people, being well-educated, have now adjusted themselves to the changed circumstances. The introduction of prohibition has already

brought a change in the social out-look of the people who were once accustomed to drink. It has brought peace to their homes and enabled them to save money, pay old debts, purchase new clothes, eat better food and lead healthier lives. On the whole, the general standard of living has shown a distinct improvement.

The general feeling among the public, however, remained that in spite of the large number of cases of detection and prosecution, the prohibition law was contravened on a large scale and the percentage of convictions was very low. Action has, however, been taken to launch an intensive prohibition drive and make the enforcement of the prohibition law more vigorous and thorough. At the same time, meetings were also held under the auspices of the State Social Welfare Board at all the Nad Headquarters of the district, giving wide publicity to the Prohibition Act and Rules and requesting the people to extend their whole-hearted co-operation and support to make prohibition a complete success. Leaders of the district, both men and women, also toured the district and impressed upon the people how they could improve their lot, if they only gave up drinking intoxicating liquor and gave their unstinted co-operation to Government in putting down this drink-evil.

The Prohibition Act envisages the granting of liquor permits to those addicts who possess valid medical certificates, and also to foreigners or persons visiting Coorg temporarily and who desire to possess and consume liquor. The number of permits issued in respect of both country liquor and foreign liquor during the years 1956 to 1963 were as follows :—

Year		*Country liquor permits*	*Foreign liquor permits*
1956	..	345	146
1957	..	456	166
1958	..	499	182
1959	..	582	227
1960	..	436	254
1961	..	422	274
1962	..	296	347
1963	..	269	465

Compared to the density of population, it has to be admitted that the number of permits issued appears to be large. Action is being taken to restrict the number, only to deserving cases.

Advancement of Backward Classes and Tribes.

There has been an unprecedented expansion of ameliorative work among the Scheduled Castes and Tribes after the dawn of independence and the establishment of democratic Government. The social disabilities of the Harijans were removed by legislàtion. A Directorate of Social Welfare was specially set up by the Government to give undivided attention to the various problems connected with the work of amelioration. District Social Welfare Officers were appointed in each district to implement the various schemes sponsored under the plan programmes.

The District Social Welfare Officer in Coorg is assisted, in implementing the various schemes, by Social Welfare Inspectors in each of the three taluks, and a Tribal Welfare Inspector, besides other technical staff.

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are labouring classes working either in the paddy fields, plantations or in the reserved forest areas of the district.

Particular attention is being paid to housing and acquisition of lands, economic aid to cottage industries, supply of bullocks, supply of seeds and manure, opening of Community Centres, provision of agricultural implements, educational facilities and rural health and sanitation, in regard to the amelioration of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

During the First Plan period, a sum of two lakhs of rupees was spent for tribal welfare work in Coorg, unlike in the other parts of the State where much attention was not being bestowed on this work. More than 20,000 persons belonging to the various tribes are living in the dense forest areas of the district. Their main professions are cultivation, forest labour, taming and rearing of elephants, collection of minor forest products like honey, soap-nuts and fuel and planting of forest trees.

The following schemes were being implemented in the district for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, during the year 1962-63 under the State sector :—

Housing and colonisation and economic aid to crafts.

(1) The subsidy granted by Government for the construction of tribal houses was raised from Rs. 500 to Rs. 800 per house from the year 1960-61. Fourteen new houses were constructed during the year 1962-63, for which a sum of Rs. 11,250 had been sanctioned; one hundred and fifteen tribal families were supplied with agricultural implements like pick-axes, koluguddali, bill-hooks, etc., at a cost of about Rs. 17,400.

(2) The tribals of Coorg district are well versed in rattan and bamboo crafts. There were four craft centres working in the district, one in Mercara taluk and the other three in Virajpet

taluk, giving training in these crafts to the tribal people. Out of a sum of Rs. 12,500 sanctioned for the purpose, a sum of about Rs. 5,500 was spent during the year 1962-63. A poultry farming centre had also been started for the benefit of these people in the Basavanahalli tribal colony, Somwarpet taluk.

(3) The Scheduled Tribes of Coorg district are adepts in the bee-keeping industry. Two bee-men are working under the District Social Welfare Officer, at Kutta and Balele centres. They had collected about 8,000 lbs. of honey during the year 1962-63 from the different tribal colonies to whom about 300 bee-hive boxes had been previously supplied.

Education

One Women's Welfare *cum* Nursery school was functioning in the Basavanahalli tribal colony in Somwarpet taluk. There were 38 children attending the Nursery school during the year 1962-63. All the women in the colony were taking part in the activities of the Women's Welfare Centre. Out of a sum of Rs. 3,750 sanctioned for the purpose, a sum of about Rs. 3,400 had been spent during the year 1962-63.

(ii) Two Ashram schools were functioning in the district for the benefit of the boys and girls of the Scheduled Tribes, one at Basavanahalli tribal colony and the other at Adinadur tribal colony, both situated in Somwarpet taluk. These Ashram schools are residential institutions in charge of a teacher, a cook and a peon being also attached to each of them. There were 112 children studying in these institutions during the year 1962-63. A sum of about Rs. 15,800 had been sanctioned for the maintenance of these institutions, and this sum was fully utilised during that year. The Social Welfare Department have started four more Ashram schools in the district from the year 1964-65. They are located at Begoor, Channangi-Basavanahalli, Gonigadde and Nagarhole.

(iii) A Scheduled Tribes' hostel was established in Kallahalla in Virajpet taluk during the year 1962-63. It was in charge of a full-time Superintendent. There were forty-five boys residing in the hostel. In addition to free boarding and lodging facilities, clothes were also supplied to all the boys. The tribal hostel at Kutta already established was continued during the year with a strength of 35 boys.

(iv) Two hostel buildings were constructed at Adinadur tribal colony, and Basavanahalli tribal colony, at an estimated cost of Rs. 10,000 each, for the use of the tribal boys and girls studying in schools.

(v) The tribal children attending the schools come from interior forest areas and the supply of mid-day meals to them is

quite essential. A sum of about Rs. 10,000 was sanctioned during 1962-63 for the purpose, and this amount was utilised for the benefit of about 200 children studying in the various schools. This free supply of mid-day meals helped regular attendance of tribal children in all the schools.

(vi) Generally, tribal children are so poor that they have hardly any clothes to wear. About 300 children studying in the various schools were therefore supplied with ready-made dresses during 1962-63, for which a sum of Rs. 4,000 had been sanctioned.

(vii) As an incentive for studies, 136 boys and girls of the Scheduled Tribes were granted scholarships for ten months in a year. Forty-two scholarships of Rs. 10 per month and 94 scholarships of Rs. 5 per month were awarded, for which a sum of Rs. 8,900 had been sanctioned during the year 1962-63.

Health and Sanitation.

Two drinking water wells were sunk in tribal colonies where there was dearth of drinking water. A sum of Rs. 2,000 was sanctioned during the year 1962-63 for the purpose.

(ii) Tribal children studying in Ashram schools and in Nursery schools attached to women's welfare centres were supplied with medicines, whenever necessary.

(iii) Three Maternity Health Assistants working in the Department of Social Welfare have been posted to look after the health and sanitation of tribal people residing in thickly populated tribal colonies. These Health Assistants contact the tribal women and children and guide them in regard to cleanliness, sanitation, family planning, maternity problems and child welfare.

(iv) Government have sanctioned a scheme called the Mobile Tribal Health Unit, with headquarters at Kallahalla. The unit consisting of a doctor, a junior health inspector, two mid-wives, a compounder, an attender and a peon is serving the tribal people who are living in the midst of forest and other interior areas, by affording timely medical relief. It is under the control and supervision of the District Health Officer, Mercara. Since a jeep has been attached to the unit, it has been possible to render medical aid at the doors of the ailing patients in emergent cases.

Rural Communications—Approach Roads.

The tribal people in Coorg district have mostly settled down in places where there are patches of agricultural lands in interior forest areas, and colonies have been constructed only in such places. Approach roads are therefore very necessary connnecting these colonies with the main roads. Out of a sum of Rs. 6,000 sanctioned for the purpose, a sum of about Rs. 5,630 was spent during 1962-63. About eleven miles of approach roads have so far been formed connecting six colonies.

Miscellaneous Schemes

About 30 acres of land have been reserved for 15 Scheduled Tribes families in Hebbalepatna village, Tithimathi range, Virajpet taluk, for collective farming under co-operative principles. A co-operative society has been organised to enable the smooth working of the scheme, for which a Government grant of Rs. 5,000 has also been made.

(ii) Most of the tribal colonies are situated in interior forest areas. The tribal people find it very difficult to protect their crops against the ravages of wild elephants and other animals. Hence, guns have been provided to eleven tribal colonies to scare away the wild animals attacking agricultural lands.

Schemes sponsored under Central sector for welfare of Scheduled Tribes

Fifteen houses were constructed for the tribal people for which a sum of Rs. 12,000 was sanctioned during 1962-63.

(ii) Agricultural implements worth about Rs. 4,000 were supplied to 17 tribal families during 1962-63.

(iii) A Community Centre building was constructed in Adinadur tribal colony at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,800.

(iv) A new metalled road was formed connecting Kushalnagar, Adinadur and Somwarpet at an estimated cost of Rs. 49,000. The length of the road is about ten miles.

(v) An agricultural colony for the Scheduled Tribes was formed in Kanthur, Kallahalla range, in the interior forest area at a total estimated cost of Rs. 44,500. Thirty-five tribal houses were constructed and each of the tribal families residing therein was supplied with a pair of bullocks and the necessary agricultural implements for cultivation.

(vi) As there was scarcity of drinking water in the tribal colonies, four wells were sunk during the year 1962-63 at a total estimated cost of Rs. 5,000.

(vii) A sum of Rs. 2,000 was sanctioned for the formation of an approach road to the Igoor-Sajjalli tribal colony and the work was completed during the year 1962-63.

A four mile road has been formed from Madalapur to Kanive tribal colony and the sanctioned amount of Rs. 3,505 has been completely spent.

Welfare of Scheduled Castes.

The social and economic conditions of these people are very unsatisfactory. Most of them are agricultural or plantation labourers.

The following schemes are being implemented in the district to ameliorate the social, economic and educational conditions of the people of the Scheduled Castes, under the State sector.

Housing and acquisition and economic aid.

Generally in Coorg, house sites have been formed only on Government land and there has been therefore no necessity of acquiring any lands for building purposes. Subsidies were granted to persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes for construction of dwelling houses, at the rate of Rs. 400 per house, and this concession was utilised by 50 people who were without houses, during the year 1962-63.

(ii) A sum of Rs. 3,900 was sanctioned during 1962-63 as aid to agriculture for the benefit of the Scheduled Castes. This was utilised for the purchase of plough bullocks, milch cows, manure and agricultural implements; seventeen Scheduled Caste families were benefited by this scheme.

(iii) A sum of Rs. 3,900 was sanctioned during 1962-63 as aid to persons of the Scheduled Castes to develop their arts and crafts, like leather-making, carpentry and tailoring; twenty-six persons were benefited under this scheme.

One tailoring training centre which was started at Ponnampet in 1960-61 was continued during the year 1962-63, and twelve girls were trained in this craft. Each of the trainees was paid a stipend of Rs. 25 per month. In addition, a sewing machine was also supplied to each of them. Out of Rs. 6,100 sanctioned for running the centre, a sum of about Rs. 5,400 was spent during 1962-63.

Education

Three Women's Welfare-*cum*-Nursery schools already established at Hebbale, Kushalnagar and Channanakote were continued during the year 1962-63. In addition, three more schools were started at Nehru colony, Ponnampet, Begoor and Balele in Virajpet taluk. Out of Rs. 21,500 sanctioned, a sum of about Rs. 20,400 was spent during the year 1962-63.

(ii) Two Community Centre buildings had been constructed in Mullur (Somwarpet taluk) and Balele (Virajpet taluk) at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,800, for the benefit of the Scheduled Caste people. One more building was constructed during the year 1962-63 in Bengoor, Mercara taluk.

(iii) Five Scheduled Caste boys' hostels were functioning in the district during the year 1962-63 with 205 boarders. They were situated in Mercara, Somwarpet, Kushalnagar, Virajpet and Ponnampet. Out of Rs. 53,830 sanctioned, a sum of about Rs. 47,160 was spent during the year 1962-63.

Two new hostel buildings were constructed by the Public Works Department, one at Kushalnagar at an estimated cost of Rs. 36,000 and another at Mercara at an estimated cost of Rs. 89,000.

(iv) Supply of mid-day meals in schools to the children belonging to the Scheduled Castes is quite a necessity as these children come from remote interior forest areas. About 500 pupils were supplied with mid-day meals for ten months in the year 1962-63, and a total sum of about Rs. 22,650 was spent in that behalf. It may be mentioned that this scheme helped in a large measure the regular attendance of pupils in schools.

(v) Poor and deserving Scheduled Caste children studying in primary, middle and high schools were supplied with free clothes during the year. A sum of about Rs. 2,000 was spent for the purpose.

(vi) Three hundred lumpsum scholarships amounting to Rs. 20,000 were awarded to poor students belonging to the Scheduled Castes studying in the various schools in the district. In addition, twenty-two students studying in the middle and high schools who had secured more than 50% of the marks at their last annual examination were each awarded merit scholarships of the value of Rs. 5 and Rs. 10 per month respectively. A sum of Rs. 1,325 was spent on this account during the year 1962-63.

Rural Health and Sanitation.

A sum of Rs. 2,224 was sanctioned during 1962-63 for sinking drinking water wells for the use of the people of the Scheduled Castes. Three well works were completed during that year.

(ii) A sum of Rs. 1,000 was sanctioned during 1962-63 towards encouragement grants to two Harijan co-operative societies, at Rs. 500 per each society.

(iii) Twenty-six Harijan farmers attended the village leaders' training camps held during 1960-61 and their expenses were met by the Department of Social Welfare.

Schemes sponsored under the Central Sector for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes.

A sum of Rs. 12,800 was spent during 1960-61 for establishing an agricultural colony at Bembalore in Somwarpet taluk. Ten Scheduled Caste families were provided with monetary aid for building houses and purchasing agricultural implements, at Rs. 800 per family. Another agricultural colony was established in Nittur-Eramane in Virajpet taluk during 1962-63 at a total cost of Rs. 8,800. Ten Scheduled Caste families were each granted two acres of land for cultivation. Each family was also provided with a house, a pair of bullocks and the necessary agricultural implements.

(ii) A Community Centre building was constructed at Ponnampet at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,800.

(iii) An approach road of about two miles was constructed connecting the Madalapur Harijan colony, at an estimated cost of Rs. 6, 000.

One hundred and forty-two scholarships of Rs. 5 and Rs. 7-50 per month were awarded to deserving Backward Class students studying in the middle and high schools in the district, for a period of ten months during the year 1962-63. A sum of Rs. 9,150 was sanctioned for the purpose.

Welfare of other Backward classes.

(ii) A sum of Rs. 3,850 was sanctioned during the year for the award of encouragement grants to three Backward Class hostels run by voluntary agencies.

(iii) Backward Class students studying in the various schools in the district were supplied with free mid-day meals for a period of ten months in the year.

(iv) One housing and colonisation scheme sanctioned for Coorg district at a total cost of Rs. 29,200 has been implemented in Seegemaroor village in Somwarpet taluk. Thirty families are accommodated in this colony.

General

All the schemes for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward classes have been satisfactorily implemented in the district. The total amount sanctioned for all the schemes during 1962-63 was Rs. 3,10,713 and the expenditure incurred, Rs. 2,64,873, the percentage of expenditure in relation to the allotment being 87.

A sum of Rs. 9.02 lakhs was spent for the welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward classes during the First Plan period. During the Second Plan period, a sum of Rs. 20.84 lakhs was spent for the same purpose. A total financial outlay of Rs. 24.77 lakhs has been proposed to cover these welfare schemes in the district during the Third Plan period.

Charitable Endowments.

The Coorg Temple Funds Management Act, 1956 (Act VIII of 1956) providing for the proper management of the temple funds in the ex-State of Coorg received the assent of the President of India on the 4th May 1956. The Act was extended to the whole of Coorg and applied to the following temples and institutions:—

1. Omkareshwara Temple, Mercara.
2. Rajas' Tombs, Mercara.
3. Bhagamandala Temple.
4. Irpu Rameshwara Temple.
5. Subraya Temple, Kunjila Village, Napoklu Nad.
6. Mahalingeshwara Temple, Palur, Napoklu Nad.
7. Harischandra Temple, Palur, Napoklu Nad.

Other temples in Coorg are all small village temples and are under private management.

The Act continued to be in force even after the reorganisation of States. Under Section 47 of the Act, rules to carry out all or any of the purposes of the Act have to be made. But Government have not framed any rules so far. Byelaws have also not been framed by the committee of management as required under Section 48 of the Act. However, for purposes of day-to-day administration, the rules issued by the Chief Commissioner of the ex-State of Coorg in January 1938, under the Central Regulation IV of 1892, are being followed in accordance with the savings provision laid down in Section 49 of the Act.

Committee of Management.

The committee for the management of temple funds in Coorg originally constituted by Government in the year 1959 with nine members, was reconstituted in November 1963 with twelve members. This included the Deputy Commissioner, the Tahsildar, Mercara Taluk, two members of the Legislative Assembly and the member of the Legislative Council belonging to the district. The term of office of each member of the committee was three years.

The president and vice-president are elected by the members of the committee from amongst themselves, and they hold office till the expiry of their term as members. But the president is permitted to continue in office even after the expiry of his term as member, until his successor is elected and enters upon his office.

Obligations and functions of the Committee.

The committee is bound to administer its affairs and to spend the temple funds so as to manage efficiently the properties attached to the temples and institutions. It is also responsible for the proper and efficient performance of *sevas* in the said temples and institutions in accordance with their usage.

Constitution of Temple Funds.

All temples and institutions coming under the purview of the Act are financed from the temple funds, which consist of :—

(*a*) all bequests, gifts and offerings,

(*b*) cash allowance paid by the Government for maintenance,

(*c*) all funds invested or at the credit of the temples or institutions at the commencement of the Act, and

(*d*) the income accruing from lands endowed to the institutions.

Subject to the annual estimate of income and expenditure, the proceeds of the temple funds are utilized for carrying out the duties and obligations imposed upon the committee.

Finance

The Coorg District Co-operative Bank, Mercara, is the authorised bank for the Coorg Temple Funds. All receipts are depo-

sited in the bank and amounts required for expenses are drawn by cheques signed by the president of the committee.

During the year 1963-64, the receipts under all the heads amounted to Rs. 66,392 and the expenditure, Rs. 59,800.

The annual cash grant payable by the Government for the conduct of services and sevas in the several temples and institutions, under Section 31 (b) of the Act, is furnished below :—

Sl. No.	*Name of the temple or institution*	*Annual allowance in cash*
		Rs. P.
1.	Omkareshwara Temple, Mercara ..	4,815.37
2.	Rajas' Tombs at Mercara ..	2,000.00
3.	Bhagamandala Temple. ..	6,276.66
4.	Brahmadaya at Subramanya (South Kanara) ..	48.00
5.	Irpu Rameshwara temple at the source of the Lakshmanathirtha river.	400.00
6.	Subraya temple at Kunjila Village, Napoklu Nad.	20.00
	Total ..	13,560.03

There were no other charitable endowments in the district apart from those connected with temples, as on the 1st January 1964.

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS.

Representation of the district in the State and the Union Legislatures.

COORG had a Legislative Council consisting of fifteen elected and five nominated members, when it was first constituted as a Chief Commissioner's Province in the year 1919. A new Legislative Assembly was constituted in March 1952 with 24 members, when it became a Part 'C' State in the year 1951. After the reorganisation of the States, Coorg district was allotted two seats in the Mysore Legislative Assembly in accordance with the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order 1956, and elections were held in 1957 to fill up these two seats.

Coorg district forms part of two single member Parliamentary constituencies, namely Mangalore and Mysore. The entire district, excluding Ammathi Nad in Virajpet taluk and Kushalnagar Nad in Somwarpet taluk, is included in the Mangalore constituency, while Ammathi Nad and Kushalnagar Nad are included in the Mysore constituency.

The district excluding Ammathi and Kushalnagar Nads has been allotted two seats in the Legislative Assembly, the latter areas being included in the Periyapatna Assembly constituency of Mysore district.

The following table indicates the names of the Assembly constituencies in the district and their extent.

Name of Constituency.	*Extent*
Virajpet	Virajpet taluk (excluding Ammathi Nad) and Napoklu Nad in Mercara taluk.
Mercara	Mercara taluk (excluding Napoklu Nad) and Somwarpet taluk (excluding Kushalnagar Nad).

The following are a few of the important changes made in the procedure relating to the conduct of the elections and matters connected therewith :—

Important changes made in the procedure relating to the conduct of the elections.

(1) Every person who is not less than twenty-one years of age on the qualifying date and is ordinarily resident in the constituency is now entitled to be registered as a voter in that constituency.

(2) The whole process of elections has now been amended to enable completion of the elections in any constituency within a period of twenty days.

(3) The method of voting has been very much simplified by the introduction of the marking system of voting in all elections.

(4) The security deposit which every petitioner has to make in connection with the filing of an election petition to the Election Commission has now been increased from one thousand rupees to two thousand rupees so as to reduce the number of petitions based on flimsy and inadequate grounds.

Political Parties.

The main political parties which participated in the second general elections held in the district in the year 1957, were the Indian National Congress, the Praja Socialist Party and the Communist Party of India. In addition to these three parties, the Bharatiya Jan Sangh and the Swatantra parties also contested the third general elections held in the year 1962. All these political parties have their affiliations with the all-India bodies. There is no party in the district which is of local origin.

Of these organised political parties, the Indian National Congress has a considerable hold on the people in the district. The party secured both the seats in the general elections held in the year 1957 as well as in 1962. Barring the Indian National Congress, the Swatantra Party and the Communist Party of India are the other parties having some hold in the district, although they failed to secure a seat in the Assembly in either of the two general elections held in the district.

Apart from these political parties, independent candidates unsuccessfully contested the seats in both the general elections of 1957 and 1962.

The following tables indicate the party affiliations of the contesting candidates, the number of valid votes polled by them and percentage, in the general elections held in 1957 and 1962 :—

Name of Constituency	*Party affiliations of contesting candidates*	*Number of valid votes polled*	*Percentage of total*
	GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1957		
Virajpet ..	(1) Congress ..	18,223	54.85
	(2) P. S. P. ..	15,002	45.15
Mercara ..	(1) Congress ..	20,039	51.69
	(2) Communist ..	14,947	38.56
	(3) Independent ..	3,772	9.75
	GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1962		
Virajpet ..	(1) Congress ..	15,292	50.54
	(2) Independent ..	6,973	23.04
	(3) Communist ..	3,658	12.09
	(4) Swatantra ..	3,496	11.59
	(5) Jan Sangh ..	832	2.74
Mercara ..	(1) Congress ..	19,914	49.14
	(2) Swatantra ..	9,969	24.60
	(3) Communist ..	8,062	19.90
	(4) Jan Sangh ..	1,886	4.66
	(5) P. S. P. ..	686	1.70

Voting Statistics—General Elections, 1957.

There were 1,03,780 voters for the Assembly elections in the year 1957. The total number of valid votes polled was 71,983 and the average percentage of votes polled was 71.14.

General Elections, 1962.

There were 1,15,910 voters for the general elections held in the year 1962. The total number of valid votes polled was 70,768 and the average percentage of votes polled was 64.47.

The following table indicates the total number of voters, the total number of valid votes polled and percentage, in respect of the general elections held in the district in the years 1957 and 1962.

Name of Constituency	*Number of electors*	*Total Number of valid votes polled*	*Percentage of column 3 to column 2*
1	2	3	4
	GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1957		
Virajpet ..	46,602	33,225	74.49
Mercara ..	57,178	38,758	67.79

GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1962

1		2	3	4
Virajpet	..	53,859	30,251	59.80
Mercara	..	62,051	40,517	69.15

Polling Stations.

During the general elections held in 1957, there were 132 polling stations located at convenient centres in the district—58 in Virajpet constituency and 74 in Mercara constituency. Five more stations were added in Virajpet constituency for the general elections of 1962, while the number in the other constituency remained the same as before.

Cost of elections in the district.

The total cost incurred on the conduct of the general elections in the district during 1962, was Rs. 22,000.

Newspapers and periodicals.

As on the 1st May 1964, two Kannada daily news-papers and a weekly were being published in the district, particulars of which are given below:—

Shakti (Daily).—The first Kannada daily to make a real head-way in the district was "Shakti", edited by Sri B. S. Gopalakrishna, in Mercara. It started publication in the year 1957 and gave considerable information on a variety of topics. The paper is stated to be having a circulation of about 4,000 copies throughout the district. It has a press of its own.

Hithavani (Daily).—This paper is being edited and published by Sri K. Govinda Rao in Virajpet. It started publication in the year 1960 and is reported to be having a circulation of about 4,000 copies at present.

Kodagu (Weekly).—This is one of the oldest Kannada weeklies in the district, having started its publication in the year 1921. Its present editor is Sri P. I. Belliappa, Mercara. The paper is very popular in the district and has an estimated circulation of about 5,000 copies. It has a press of its own.

Kannada and English newspapers and periodicals published in Bangalore, Mangalore, Hubli, Madras and Bombay also have a wide circulation among the reading public of the district. As there is a large labour population from Kerala, Malayam newspapers are also in circulation.

Apart from these papers, film magazines published in Bombay and Madras have also a good circulation in the district.

Voluntary social service organisations.

There are several voluntary social service organisations in the district doing good work, catering for the social needs of the

citizens in a variety of ways. Many of these organisations have been recognised by the Government and are getting assistance for their maintenance.

The social service organisations in the district can be broadly classified under two categories, namely, (1) welfare institutions and (2) institutions for community development like mahila samajas, youth organisations and the like.

The following is a brief review of the more important social service organisations in the district. It has not been possible to obtain details of all the institutions functioning in the district, but an attempt has been made to include as many institutions as possible details about whose working are available.

Mahadeopet Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Mercara.

This institution was started in the year 1955. Its main objects are to help the poor women of the locality by imparting free instruction in crafts like tailoring, embroidery, and knitting, and the establishment of a shishu vihar for the benefit of the children. The institution was managed during the year 1962-63 by a committee consisting of a president, a secretary and six other members. The samaja is getting an annual grant of Rs. 500 both from the Government as well as from the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi. It is also getting a teaching grant of Rs. 220 per month from the Education Department. There were 170 members on the rolls of the institution as on the 1st February 1964. It has been awarded a number of certificates and prizes for participation in exhibitions and other competitions.

Among the distinguished visitors to the Samaja, mention may be made of General Cariappa, Mrs. Brook of Darien, Smt. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya and Smt. Tara Bai, President of the Child Care Committee, Delhi.

Kodagu Mahila Sahakara Samaja, Virajpet.

One among the older service organisations in the district, this institution was started in the year 1941 by some of the leading women of Virajpet. It was registered under section 10 of the Coorg Co-operative Societies Act of 1936, on the 23rd September 1941. The main object of the institution is to cater for the needs of women and children and to work for their uplift. It was managed during the year 1962-63 by a committee consisting of a president, a vice-president, treasurer, secretary and five other members. There were 566 share-holders, inclusive of 83 local members paying monthly subscription, as on the 1st March 1964. The Samaja is also getting grants from the Government for the maintenance of the nursery school and craft class, from the Municipality for the general maintenance and the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for carrying out special programmes of welfare work.

The institution is running a nursery school for children below five years and also a tailoring class for the benefit of the women of the town. There were 30 boys and 19 girls in the nursery school as on the 1st March 1964. It conducted a condensed course of training for women of the age group of 20—35, sponsored by the Central Social Welfare Board, together with an attached hostel for the trainees from 1st April, 1960 to 4th April, 1962.

The financial position of the Samaja is quite sound. It has a programme to expand its activities by making provision for running a permanent hostel for the benefit of girl students and working women, and to develop the fruit and vegetable preservation and canning centre under its control, on a commercial basis.

Sri Kaveri Bhakta Jana Sangha, Virajpet.

This institution was started in the year 1939 to spread the teachings of Vedantha, to cultivate devotion to God and to impress upon the people the necessity to lead a pure and simple life. The structure of the governing body of the Sangha consists of a president, a vice-president, a secretary and nine other committee members. There were 420 members in the Sangha during the year 1963-64 paying an annual subscription of three rupees each. The institution is also running a boarding house in which about 35 boys and girls are maintained. An orphanage is also being run for the benefit of poor orphans of the locality.

Eminent men and women are invited to deliver lectures during important religious festivals and other occasions. The Sangha has close contact with other religious institutions like Ramakrishna Sharadashrama, Mysore, Anantha Ashrama, Bangalore, and Narayana Nivas of the Himalayas.

Mahila Sahakara Samaja, Pollibetta.

This institution was started in November 1956 by some enterprising ladies of the locality with a keen interest in social service. The objects of the institution are mainly the improvement of the social, physical, cultural and educational well-being of women and children. The women members are trained to lead a useful life by being taught singing, dancing, sewing and knitting and other crafts so as to enable them to become good house-wives. The managing committee consists of nine members including a president and a secretary. It has a building of its own constructed at a cost of Rs. 10,000.

The Block Development Office is giving an annual grant of Rs. 240, besides providing toys for the shishuvihar. The Mysore State Social Welfare Board is giving an annual grant of Rs. 500. The Samaja is getting a good income by way of commission, by selling National Savings Certificates.

There were 86 members in the Samaja during the year 1964-65. A cutting and tailoring class has been started and the institution is maintaining a well-equipped library. Dancing classes are also being held and the children have won prizes for their performance in this art.

The financial position of the institution is sound.

Badagarakeri Mahila Samaja, Birunani.

This Samaja was established in the year 1955 by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies of the ex-State of Coorg. The main objects of the institution are to improve the social and moral welfare of women and to provide training to them in arts and crafts. The Samaja was managed during the year 1963-64 by a committee consisting of a president, a secretary and five other members. The institution is getting grants from the Central Social Welfare Board and the Block Development Office, and members of the public are also helping it by means of donations.

The Samaja is conducting classes in tailoring and embroidery. There were 100 members in the Samaja, which had to its credit a bank balance of about Rs. 5,000 as on the 1st March 1964.

Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Ponnampet.

This women's welfare institution was started in the year 1952 in a building donated by Sri C. P. Kushalappa, the then president of the Ponnampet Notified Area Committee. There were 80 members on the rolls of the institution during the year 1963-64, each paying a subscription of two rupees per year. It is managed by a committee of five members including a president and a vice-president. The institution was running a nursery class with 38 boys and 46 girls on its rolls, as on the 1st March 1964. There is a small library available for the use of the public. The Samaja is also running a sewing class in which 12 students are being trained. The institution is getting an annual grant from the Education Department.

The members of the Samaja went on a study tour excursion of all the important places in the State in the year 1960, thereby gaining good experience and knowledge.

Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Somwarpet.

This institution was started in the year 1944 and it was registered under the Coorg Co-operative Societies Act, 1936. The main object of the institution is to cater for the needs of women and children and to work for their improvement in all spheres. The Samaja is getting grants from the Government and the Municipality for its maintenance. It is running a nursery school for children below six years of age. There were 44 boys and 35 girls, as on the 1st March 1964, under the charge of two trained teachers. The Education Department is giving an annual equipment grant of Rs. 500 and a teaching grant of Rs. 215 per month, to the school. A tailoring class is also being run for the benefit of

the women of the town. A condensed course for women appearing for the S.S.L.C. Examination, 1965 conducted by the Samaja was financed by the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi. A fruit preservation unit is also run by the Samaja from 1st September, 1963.

Mahila Co-operative Samaja, Kushalnagar.

This Samaja was established in the year 1954 and registered under the Co-operative Societies Act. Its main objects are to help the poor women of the locality by arranging free instruction in crafts like tailoring, embroidery and knitting, and the establishment of a sishu vihara for children. The institution was managed during the year 1963-64, by a committee of nine members, which included a president and a secretary. It was getting an annual equipment grant of Rs. 500 and a teaching grant of Rs. 210 and a contingent grant of Rs. 5 per month from the Education Department towards maintenance of the nursery school.

There were 45 boys and 26 girls in the school as on the 1st March 1964, under the charge of two teachers. Regular classes in tailoring, embroidery and knitting were being held, and women were taking advantage of these classes in large numbers.

Sri Ramakrishna Sharada Ashrama and allied institutions, Ponnampet.

The Ramakrishna Sharadashrama situated in calm and picturesque rural surroundings was founded by Srimath Swami Nirmalanandaji Maharaj in 1927. The discourses and lectures by eminent scholars arranged under the auspices of the Ashrama have been a source of inspiration and guidance to many, not only in Ponnampet but also in different parts of Coorg. The annual celebrations attract a large number of people from the surrounding villages. These thirty six years and more, the Ashrama is doing its best to lead people to a higher stage of moral and spiritual life. The rural uplift work undertaken by the institution and the introduction of scientific bee-keeping by Swami Shambhavanandaji of the Ashrama, are well-known.

Poojas and bhajans are conducted daily, in which the students and other members of the public take part. The calm and peaceful atmosphere of the Ashrama has been attracting sadhus from other centres for tapasya. Several distinguished visitors have visited the Ashrama and its allied institutions and recorded their appreciation of the good work done by the Ashrama.

The Library.

The Shri Ramakrishna Library and Reading Room was opened in the year 1958 for the public, by Swami Madhavanandaji Maharaj, General Secretary of the Ramakrishna Math and Mission. The Swamijee also laid the foundation stone of a lecture hall on the occasion. It is proposed to expand the activities of the Ashrama by making provision for starting physical culture and yoga-asan classes, and also recreational facilities for the public.

There are more than 2,000 books on different subjects in Kannada, Hindi, English, Sanskrit and Malayalam. The Reading Room is provided with daily papers, weeklies and monthlies. The Government of India and the Central Social Welfare Board have given grants of Rs. 3,600 and Rs. 300, respectively, for the purchase of books for the library.

The Sri Ramakrishna Sevashramá (Hospital).

Seeing the suffering of the people of Ponnampet and the surrounding villages, due to the existence of a virulent type of malaria, Swami Pranaveshanandaji, the then President of the Ashrama, started a temporary homoeopathic dispensary in 1942. To make it more useful, a building was put up and an up-to-date allopathic dispensary was started in 1947. The dispensary has been serving about twenty-five villages with a population of more than 30,000.

The hospital has eight wards, and an X-ray plant has been installed with the help of a generous grant of Rs. 25,000 by the Government of India. During the year 1963-64, about 25,000 peope were treated as out-patients, and 85 maternity cases were attended to by the Maternity Assistant. About 4,000 people were treated as in-patients during the same period. Poor patients are treated free of all charges both in the out-door and in-door sections.

The authorities of the Ashrama have launched on an ambitious programme to improve and enlarge the facilities now obtaining in the hospital, with the co-operation of the State and Central Governments.

Mahila Mandals.

Twenty Mahila Mandals were functioning in the district during the year 1963-64 at the following centres :—

(1) Margod
(2) Murnad
(3) Galibeedu
(4) Doddabandara
(5) Hatchinad
(6) Bembloor
(7) B. Shettigeri
(8) Kirgur
(9) Birunani
(10) Cheyyendane
(11) Naladi
(12) Kavadi
(13) Kumbaragadige
(14) Athur-Nallur
(15) Thorenoor
(16) Kadiathur
(17) Gonikoppal

(18) Kanur-Kothur
(19) Chembebelur
(20) Kunjalgeri.

Most of these mahila mandals have started the preprimary "balawadi" classes for the benefit of the children. The villagers are so interested in these classes that their ready co-operation with the various other activities of the mandals can be secured only after the opening of such classes in the village. Second in the order of priority come the maternity health services. Though the responsibility for the maintenance of such services lay with the Public Health Department, owing to the non-availability of trained personnel of that department, the mandals continued to render these services also.

The craft programme is next in the order of priority. A general directive has been issued to the mandals and other voluntary organisations to open production units.

Mahila Mandal Training Camps.

As per the directive of the Central Social Welfare Board, the State Board decided to conduct training camps in various districts for the benefit of the office-bearers of mahila mandals formed out of the old Welfare Extension Project Centres. The training courses were organised to impart training in the (i) maintenance of accounts, (ii) implementation of welfare services, and (iii) maintenance of minimum standards in the services.

Training camps were accordingly held quite successfully in the district. The discussions in these camps were very interesting and illuminative and proved that rural women, apart from being anxious to retain welfare services started by the projects, were particular about running them according to specified standards.

The following statement indicates the number of children attending the Balawadi course, the number of women benefited, the grant sanctioned by the Central Social Welfare Board and the local contribution, in respect of each of the mahila mandals functioning in the district, as on the 1st October 1968.

Sl. No.	Location of Mahila Mandal	Number of children attending the Balawadi	Number of women benefited	Grant by the Central Social Welfare Board	Local Contribution
1	2	3	4	5	6
				Rs.	Rs.
(1)	Margod ..	40	60	2,500	568
(2)	Murnad ..	16	11	1,500	..

1	2	3	4	5	6
(3)	Galibeedu	.. 20	16	2,500	..
(4)	Hatchinad	.. 21	27	1,500	..
(5)	Bembloor	.. 40	15	2,500	..
(6)	B. Shettigeri	.. 26	12	2,500	..
(7)	Doddabandara	.. 27	..	2,500	..
(8)	Kirgur	.. 20	6	1,500	725
(9)	Birunani	.. 34	35	2,500	416
(10)	Cheyyandane	.. 27	57	2,500	390
(11)	Naladi	.. 29	28	1,500	580
(12)	Kavadi	.. 23	12	2,500	648
(13)	Kumbaragadige	.. 31	29	2,500	..
(14)	Athur-Nallur	.. 29	47	2,500	740
(15)	Thorenoor	.. 38	24	2,500	225
(16)	Kadiathur	.. 20	150	2,500	776
(17)	Gonikoppal	.. 19	25	2,500	600
(18)	Kanur-Kothur	.. 40	15	2,500	750
(19)	Chembebelur	.. 25	54	2,500	242
(20)	Kunjalgeri	.. 26	8	1,500	400

e Rotary ub, Mercara.

This institution was started in the year 1950 sponsored by the Rotary Club, Mysore. From its inception, the club has been very active in carrying out the Rotary ideal of service and promotion of international understanding. It is essentially a service organisation covering four avenues of service, namely, service to members, vocational service, community service and international service. It was managed during the year 1963-64 by a board of seven directors which included a president, a vice-president and a secretary. There were nineteen members on the rolls during that year, each paying a monthly subscription of five rupees. The club has been responsible for implementing the urban pilot projects sponsored by the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi.

The club is awarding two annual scholarships of Rs. 400 and Rs. 250 to two of the best students studying in the Medical and Engineering colleges, respectively. It gave a donation of Rs. 5,500 to the T.B. Clinic, Mercara, a sum of Rs. 3,000 for the establishment of a Book Bank in the Polytechnic at Kushalnagar, and a sum of Rs. 300 for the maintenance of a bed in the Ramakrishna Mission hospital at Ponnampet. One of its outstanding achievements in community service is the construction of a children's ward in the Women's and Children's Hospital, Mercara. The club is financing the entire cost of blood transfusions to poor patients in the hospitals at Mercara.

The club secured the first prize for its achievements in international service in the year 1963, and was adjudged as the second best Rotary International for three consecutive years, during the period 1959-1962.

Darien-Mercara Association

In 1954, while celebrating the U.N.O. day, a desire to promote peace through international understanding and friendship prompted the people of Darien to have some friendly connection with an Indian city, and Mercara was chosen for that purpose.

Darien is a prosperous town about forty miles from New York. It is mainly a commuters' city, most of its people going to work in New York. Its people overwhelm their guests with their gracious hospitality. Mercara is indeed fortunate in having this connection with them. This relationship, encouraged by the exchanges of gifts, correspondence and of visits has grown so close that they can be called sister cities. Mercara has given a present of a baby elephant and Darien has donated a ward for the local Women's and Children's Hospital. Numerous too have been the exchanges of gifts and letters between school children of the two cities. The Brookes, the Glicks and the Greggs of Darien spent a few days in Mercara, and many people of Coorg and other Indian cities have been welcomed in Darien.

Out of this contact has grown a larger and more important tie. Darien now observes an annual " India Day ". Our countrymen in the United States are welcomed to visit and stay with the families of Darien on that day and are made to feel the warmth of their hospitality. On the same day, Mercara observes an " America Day " and a few American familes are welcomed and shown round this lovely land of Coorg. From a city-to-city contact has grown a country-to-country understanding and friendship.

Under the Darien teacher exchange programme financed by the citizens of Darien, Professor R. Muthuswamy of the Government Arts and Science College, Mercara, was deputed to Darien, where, in addition to teaching in selected institutions, he also took his master's degree. An English teacher from the Darien High School, Mr. Leon E. Clark, came to Mercara under the exchange programme.

The Indian Red Cross Society, Mercara.

The Coorg Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society was established in Mercara in the year 1922. Its main objects are.—

(1) promotion of health,
(2) prevention of diseases,
(3) supply of comforts to patients,
(4) provision of better facilities to patients in smaller hospitals, and
(5) maintenance of friendly relations with national and international Red Cross organisations.

The general object of the organisation is to give succour to suffering humanity during war, famine and other calamities, irrespective of religion or nationality.

The society had 108 members on its rolls during the year 1962-63, each member paying either an annual subscription or a donation in lump. The Deputy Commissioner of the district is the chairman, and the District Surgeon is the honorary secretary of the organisation, which has also one vice-chairman, one joint secretary and eight other members.

Besides the supply of necessities to patients in hospitals, the society is distributing milk powder to weak and deserving children. It is also managing maternity centres in two interior villages, namely, Parane and Ammathi. The society is doing meritorious service in arranging for the supply of woollen garments to the armed forces stationed in the northern borders of the country.

Bharat Sevak Samaj, Mercara.

Another important and active voluntary social service organisation in the district is the branch of the All India Bharat Sevak Samaj which was inaugurated in October 1952 by Sri Jawaharlal Nehru. The various activities of the Samaj are guided and directed by a convenor with the help of a committee of eleven members. One of the major activities of the organisation is the holding of social service camps in villages. The programmes envisaged during these camps comprised activities which catered to all the age groups of both the sexes. Among the important items of work turned out during these camps were.—

(1) construction of approach roads,
(2) preparation of play grounds near schools,
(3) repairs and white-washing of school buildings,
(4) construction and repairs of wells,
(5) repairs and desilting of tanks,
(6) running adult education centres, and
(7) educating the Harijans in civic problems.

The camps are conducted on a matching basis, 50 per cent of the cost being met by the villagers concerned, and the balance being borne by the central organisation of the Samaj.

There were about 400 members in the Samaj, during the year 1962-63, each paying an annual subscription of one rupee. Funds are also collected for the Samaj through voluntary contributions. Membership is available only to those who subscribe to the creed of non-violence and the ideal of dignity of manual labour.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST

Abbi.—This place is three miles from Mercara, where the Mercara stream falls from a height. 'Abbi' in Kodagu dialect means falls. The Abbi falls was formerly called the Jesse Falls in honour of a daughter of the first chaplain of Mercara. It is much admired and frequently visited by picnic parties.

Abbi Matha.—This is an important Veerashaiva matha in Somwarpet taluk. It was established by Dodda Virarajendra Wodeyar. There are many palm leaf writings and manuscript records in this matha.

Abyatmangala.—A village in Virajpet taluk. This is noted for the Attimangala channel, an irrigation work constructed in the early years of this century. This channel feeds the rich rice fields of the Abyatmangala and Valanur-Tegathur villages.

Anandapura.—This Protestant settlement is situated on the road from Siddapur to Virajpet and has gained importance as being the first Protestant settlement in Coorg. One of the oldest Protestant churches in the district, built in the year 1855, is situated here.

Balamuri.—This place is about 13 miles from Mercara and is situated on the banks of the river Cauvery. It is also a pilgrim centre. A large number of people visit the place during the Cauvery festival on the second day of the Thula month. Dodda Virarajendra Wodeyar built a rest house here which is still in good condition. The villagers are taking good care of it. A Mahila Samaja and a Sishu Vihara are run on the upstairs of this rest house. The village has one of the best Coorgi folk-dance parties.

Barapole Hydro-Electric Project area.—This project area is in Kuttandi village in Ponnampet-nad. The site of this project is about ten miles south-east of Virajpet. There is a fair-weather motorable road from Virajpet to the proposed site of the project. The project is designed to generate 180,000 KWTs of electric power. Apart from the fact that the hydro-electric project will be

located here, the site merits a visit for a view of the magnificent spectacle of the mountain ranges, unsurpassed anywhere in the south.

The river Barapole across which the hydel project is to be installed is made up of two major streams known as Kangan-hole and Kakkatu-hole and flows west to the Arabian Sea through Malabar. A dam is being built across the river to impound the waters for running the turbines. The catchment area of the dam is 38.3 square miles.

Betageri.—This place is in the Suntikoppa Nad of Somwarpet taluk. It was once humming with life and activity as the capital of a feudatory of the Changalvas.

Bhagamandala.—A village situated at a distance of 24 miles to the west of Mercara and connected with it by a good all-weather motorable road.

The place derives its importance from the temples near the rivers, which attract a large number of pilgrims, during the Thula month particularly at the time of the Cauvery festival. The temples have an endowment of about Rs. 3,900. There is an inscription in the court-yard on a stone slab of the Bhagandeshwara temple, in the Tamil language and Granth-akshara. Tippu Sultan had converted the temple premises into a fort between 1785 and 1790 and had kept a small garrison here. He had named Bhagamandala as Afzalabad. In 1790, however, the fort at Bhagamandala was taken from his troops by Dodda Virarajendra of Coorg, after a siege lasting five days. The Raja himself fired the first cannon from the hill of Mumbaratu, and three copper tiles in the roof of the temple were destroyed in the bombardment. But he replaced them with four tiles of silver immediately.

Bhagamandala is a name well-known to every pious Hindu. It is here that the sacred rivers, the Cauvery and the Kannike, meet. Tradition has it that Sujyothi, a subterranean stream, joins these rivers here. Hence the place is popularly known as "Triveni Sangama".

There are four important temples just above the confluence of the three rivers, dedicated to Ishwara, Subramanya, Vishnu and Ganapathi. This is an important pilgrimage-centre. This place is also called Bhagandeswara Kshetra. Pilgrims first take a bath in the Sangama and offer oblations to their departed ancestors. They then ascend the hills for a holy bath at Talakaveri.

At Bhagamandala, the tourist can also visit an important demonstration and research-*cum*-training centre in modern methods of bee-keeping.

Bittangala.—A place situated in the Virajpet taluk. The "Saratabhi water fall" is a place of scenic grandeur which is reached from Bittangala. The Barapole river, on its course westwards, falls from a height and this natural advantage is expected to be utilised for generating electricity. The water-fall looks picturesque during the post-monsoon months when water is less plentiful in the river.

Chettalli.—This place is about ten miles from Mercara, on the Mercara-Siddapur-Virajpet Road. About one and a half miles from Chettalli on the Chettalli-Suntikoppa road, there is an orange research station run by the State Government and subsidised by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. With a view to evolving citrus species suitable for development in the State, many interesting experiments are being conducted here. The Government has a programme to develop this as a horticultural station. On the way to this orange research station, is a coffee research sub-station maintained by the India Coffee Board.

Devatuparambu.—This is a place about six miles from Bhagamandala, Tippu Sultan called some 5,000 Coorgs with their families to assemble on a big maidan here in 1785 and then treacherously seized upon them, men, women and children, and deported them to Srirangapatna, where he converted them to Islam.

Dhanugala.—This place is eight miles north-east of Hudikeri in Ponnampet Nad. It was once famous for the Palupare or Papare fort of considerable extent, said to have been built by Kolli Ninga and Benne Krishna of the Beda tribe, and which was later destroyed by Tippu Sultan's armies. There are at present only the remains of a temple within the fort area.

Gargandur.—There is the site of an old fort of the times of the later Changalvas in this place. On this site is a stone pillar with a carved and dome-like top. There are two tanks near the fort site. There is a high school at Gargandur. There is also a fine bridge across Harangi river between Gargandur and Hardur.

Gonikoppal.—This place is on the Bittangala-Mattigodu road, south-east of Mercara. There is an important citrus research station. This is also a busy market place in Virajpet taluk.

Halugote.—A place in Somwarpet taluk. A big tank covering an area of 34 28 acres is located here. The tank is called Halagote tank and is similar in extent to Honnammanakere.

Haleri.—This place is six miles from Mercara on the Madapur road, and noted for its coffee estates. The place is of historical importance because of its association with

the Haleri Rajas who later became Rajas of Coorg. A prince in the guise of a Jangama, it is stated, came from the Ikkeri kingdom and established himself here. Gaining influence, he conquered the surrounding territory. He held sway for a number of years. Since the time the prince (Jangama) from Ikkeri came to this place and settled there, Haleri became important in Coorg history.

Heggala.—A village five miles south-west of Virajpet which is noted for its mountainous pass called the "Heggala pass". Though the huge mountain mass of the Western Ghats is inaccessible from the west, several natural passes are there which provide communication. The Heggala pass is one such, through which the Periambadi ghat road to Cannanore *via* Watekolli is laid. The Heggala pass became historically famous in the military adventures of Tippu Sultan when he went through the pass to subdue the rulers of Cochin and Travancore. Several times Tippu was pushed back. It is stated that the British forces also marched from Cannanore to Srirangapatna through this pass during their wars with Tippu Sultan.

Honnammanakere.—This is an old tank, the oldest in the district, situated close to Somwarpet. The tank is used for irrigation.

Horamale.—There is a site here with some remains of old walls of the palace of the Horamale branch of the Haleri royal family. Now there is a cardamom plantation on the palace site. About a mile from here, there is a small stone-walled and roofed temple of the goddess Bhadra Kali. On the stone pillars at the entrance to the small temple yard, creepers and leaves have been carved. Though small, this temple looks grand. This is the only temple of its kind in Coorg.

Hudikeri.—A village which was once the headquarters of the old Kiggatnad taluk, 39 miles south-east of Mercara. It is situated in a healthy locality on the top of a beautiful grass hill, whence a fine view can be had of the Brahmagiri and Marenad ranges. The "Glen Lorn" tea estate is situated three miles from Hudikeri on the road leading to Mananthody. This is the only tea estate in Coorg.

Hudugur.—Hudugur is the site of the dam to be constructed across the Harangi. This place is about eight miles from Kushalnagar on the Kudige-Somwarpet Road.

Iggutappadevara-betta.—This, in the proximity of the Aiyangeri forest near Paditora pass, is a lofty peak and is a pilgrim centre for the Coorgs in particular and other Hindus in general. Worshippers from all over the district congregate at the shrine and offer poojas and sometimes "Tulabhara",

weighing oneself with rice or coconuts and offering the same to the deity along with some money. The place is highly venerated for the presiding deity Subramanya, the patron god of the Coorgs.

Irupu.—A place of pilgrimage in Kurchi village in South Coorg, about 30 miles from Virajpet. There is a temple here said to have been dedicated to God Shiva by Sri Rama himself, on the banks of the Lakshmanatirtha river. Lakshmanatirtha is the name given to the river formed by the water falling down from the top of the hill. On the day of "Mahashivarathri", pilgrims from several parts of the country-side congregate here to take a holy bath in the river. There is an all-weather motorable road from Virajpet upto Srimangala, a distance of 25 miles, with a number of buses plying on it, and also from Srimangala to Irupu, a distance of five miles. In the proximity of Irupu and towards Wynad, the Brahmagiri peak is another place of interest for tourists. There is a rest house on the top of the hill from where one can obtain a magnificent view of the hills and dales. On clear days, the sight-seer can feast his eyes on an extensive area of South Coorg and a portion of North Malabar.

Kadamkallu.—This place is in the confines of Kumaralli forest region and is noted for its first rubber estate in Coorg. A new road is being constructed from Mercara through Kadamkallu to Sri Subramanya, a noted shrine in South Kanara district. The road, when completed, will cut short the distance considerably and afford easy access to the celebrated place.

Kakkabe.—This place is five miles from Napoklu and has gained importance historically, as a village of approach to the Nalknad Palace, described later. Those who desire to visit the Nalknad Palace have to pass through Kakkabe. The road from Napoklu to Virajpet passes through Kakkabe.

Kodlipet.—It is to the north of Somwarpet and is on the border of the Coorg District. The Sakleshpur-Arkalgud road through Coorg runs across the north of the Somwarpet taluk through Kodlipet, and from this place the main road to Mercara runs south, past Sanivarasanthe, through the length of the taluk. A cross road connects Sanivarasanthe with Hebbale. This is a commercial place linking the cardamom-growing centre of Sakleshpur with Coorg.

Kudige.—Three miles from Kushalnagar is a place called Kudige on the road to Somwarpet. This has now been converted into a model agricultural and dairy farm. A Basic Training College for the training of teachers was also started here in 1950. The farm has been extended to cover an area of more than 500 acres, mainly for conducting experiments on several

agricultural crops, including paddy and ragi. A Sericulture farm has also been established where silk cocoons are reared and then sent to the Government Silk Factory at Mysore. The Government dairy farm maintains a large number of pedigreed cows for purposes of demonstration as well as for the supply of pasteurised milk to the urban areas of the district. An artificial insemination centre was opened in the farm as early as in 1952, making maximum use of the good pedigreed bulls maintained there. The centre has become very popular as it caters to the needs of the majority of the livestock breeders. A fodder research station was also started in the farm in the year 1954. A gram sevak training centre was opened here in 1958.

Kumaralli.—The Pushpagiri or Subramanya hill, the celebrated mountain (5,626 feet), is in the north-west of Coorg, about 23 miles from Somwarpet and one mile from Kumaralli, which is amidst dense jungle. This is a remarkable two-pointed hill of precipitous height and peculiar shape and resembles, as seen from Mercara, a gigantic bullock hump. The ascent, which, on account of the precipices of the southern and western parts of the hill, can only be effected by a circuitous route, is more difficult than that of Tadiandamol. Starting from Bhagati, at the base of Pushpagiri, it is about six miles walking, the ascent taking a good walker about three hours. A dense jungle, full of wild elephants, has to be penetrated during the ascent. The summit commands an extensive view of Coorg, South Kanara and Mysore. There are on this hill numerous Hindu memorials in the shape of stone mounds. Within an enclosure, there are two stone structures, with the traditional imprint of two feet (*pada*) said to be of celestial origin. There is a temple of Ishwara also on the top of the hill. Pujas are performed on a grand scale every year on the occasion of " Thula Sankramana ".

Kushalnagar.—Kushalnagar is a growing town, 19 miles from Mercara, on the Mercara-Mysore Road. It is situated on the banks of the Cauvery. The name, Kushalnagar, was given to the town by Haider Ali, on receiving here a happy tidings of some victory. Later, during the British rule, the town was named Fraserpet after Colonel Fraser, the first Chief Commissioner of Coorg. Its original name of Kushalnagar has now been restored.

The Cauvery is crossed here by a strong stone bridge. Because of its position, it is warmer than Mercara, and, during the heavy Coorg monsoon, offers a pleasant retreat from the violence of the rains.

Besides the main Mysore-Mercara road which passes through the town, cross-roads run south to Siddapur, north to Hebbale, and north-west to Somwarpet.

In the days of the Chief Commissioners, the place was the monsoon headquarters of the head of the Coorg State. A new polytechnic is set up here for the whole of Coorg. Kushalnagar is also a centre for big game hunters. The Anekad and the adjoining Attur State forests are closeby. The town is a busy place for trade.

Kutta.—This place is on the Wynad border and is close to Manchalli forest encompassing the magnificent Brahmagiri hill. This Brahmagiri hill is quite different from the other Brahmagiri hill at Talakaveri. The place is a frontier outpost, situated as it is in the dense Wynad jungles known for its elephant herds. The Kutta-Nagarhole road originates from this place.

Madalapur.—A dam is constructed across a small stream here and about 1,000 acres of paddy growing lands are irrigated from the water stored in this dam.

Madapur.—This place is thirteen miles from Mercara and twelve miles from Somwarpet. The ancient family cemetery of the Coorg Rajas is here. The tomb of Lingarajendra Wodeyar I, the father of Doddavirarajendra Wodeyar and Lingarajendra Wodeyar II, is situated on the banks of the Madapur river, but it has no claim to architectural merit. It is surrounded by narrow outhouses which crowd too closely upon it. It is about 40 feet square and of nearly the same height and stands on an elevated base. It consists of two storeys, the bottom one enclosing the sepulchres in a central apartment, the one above being of the same size as the central apartment, leaving room for a passage and a low balustrade all round. The lower storey is ornamented with a large figure of Basava, sculptured in syenite, and similar images adorn the capitals of four small pillars placed at angles on the top of the building.

Madapur is also called Jambur, because it is said that the Haleri Rajas of Coorg were going in procession from the Madapur matha which is by the side of the cemetery, to the river on the other side of the village. This procession was called Jamboo-savari and hence the name of the village as Jambur. Madapur is the shortened form of Mahadevpur.

Makut.—This place is on the borders of the Cannanore district of Kerala and is in the midst of the Periambadi ghat. There is a rubber estate closeby. At one time, a small tram line was laid here to transport timber, and this opened prospects for the laying of a railway line from Nanjangud to Tellicherry across Coorg. The survey was completed but the proposed railway line was given up due to the intervention of the war. The road leading to Cannanore from Virajpet suddenly takes a descent from Makut.

Malambi.—This place is situated in the north-east of Coorg on the road from Somwarpet to Sanivarasanthe. The peak closeby is remarkable for the beauty of its conical shape. Though not remarkable for its height, the conical shape attracts the sightseers.

Mercara.—The headquarters of Coorg district, is a town with a population of 14,453 according to the Census of 1961. It is not linked by railway. But there are excellent motorable roads both from Mysore and Mangalore. Mercara is at a distance of 75 miles from Mysore and 84 miles from Mangalore. Situated in 12° 25' North latitude, 75° 46' East longitude, it is a picturesque town situated on uneven ground and commanding enchanting views from several points. A stroll along any path in the less busy parts of the town reveals at almost every turn a new and delightful view to the eye.

Mercara is the name given by the Britishers to "Madikeri", the headquarters of Coorg or the "Kodagu" district. The town is picturesquely situated on an elevated plateau on the Western Ghats. 'Madikeri' was founded by a prince of the Haleri dynasty—Muddu Raja— in the year 1681. The Coorg Rajas had their residence in Haleri till the founding of Mercara. Muddu Raja selected this site for his fort and capital on account of its central, as well as its inaccessible position. Tradition has it that the Raja chose the hill on which the fort and the palace now stand, as he found a hare chasing a dog, when he had gone there to hunt. But such stories are attributed to almost every spot in India where forts have been built. Muddu Raja built a mud fort, and also a palace with mud walls inside the fort, in 1681. The town was then named "Muddu-Rajakeri" after its founder Muddu Raja. In 1815, Lt. P. Connor who had been deputed by the East India Company to make a survey of Coorg, referred to this town as "Muddukayray". Later, it came to be called "Madikeri" by the local people, and "Mercara" by the Britishers.

In the beginning of the 19th century, Mercara was a very small town, with almost no trade with the neighbouring places. The houses of the officials of the Raja were in the immediate vicinity of the fort. Between 1800 and 1805, Virarajendra built the new town of Mahadeopet to the north of the fort, in memory of his second and favourite queen, Mahadevammaji. At the northern end of this town, he built the Petta Subedar's Cutcherry or office. The Mercara Municipal School is at present housed in that building. The Rajas' seal ('V') in Kannada has been inscribed on a stone slab and fixed in the wall just above the front door of that building, and can be seen even to-day.

Mercara offers to the tourist several interesting places worth a visit. Among these are the fort, the former palace, the

Omkareswara Temple, the Gaddige (or the Rajas' Tombs) and the Raja's Seat.

The fort stands on an elevated ground, practically crowning the town. It is an imposing structure. The present fort, which is of stone, was built by Tippu and named by him 'Jaffarabad'. It, however, fell to Virarajendra in 1790, when his troops cut off supplies to the garrison stationed in the fort and all its guns, ammunition and treasure were delivered to the Raja. The fort was in the hands of the Coorg Rajas from this time upto April 1834 when the last of the Rajas was deposed by the British. It is still in pretty good condition but it must have been of little strategical value, being surrounded by hills all round and within short cannon range. It is an irregular hexagon, and nearly conforms to the shape of the hill top, leaving enough space for a ditch all round. There are bastions at the six angles, and the whole structure is built of strong masonry. The entrance, which is on the east, is intricate and circuitous and guarded by three successive gates. In the inner fort, towards the southern front of the palace, a temple of Virabhadra was removed in 1855 to make way for the present English Church, whose spire is a conspicuous object from all sides. The church was built under the direction of the Reverend A. Fennel, and his handiwork contributed to its interior fittings. In the words of Sri Muthanna, the English Church " is a neat structure in plain Gothic style ".

THE PALACE.—Lingarajendra Wodeyar II, who ruled after Virarajendra, rebuilt the palace within the fort in brick and mortar in the years 1812 to 1814. An inscription on the metal plate in one of the palace rooms mentions the date of commencement and of completion of the construction of the palace, and concludes, " The pious who praise Almighty God by whose grace this magnificent palace was constructed after the removal of the rugged hill top, shall enjoy eternal happiness in this world and in the world to come ". Lt. Connor describes the palace in these words—" This edifice consists of two stories, is lofty and spacious and like most Hindoo buildings of this nature, covers a great extent of area. It is of a square form having a small court in the centre; three of its sides present nearly a blank space varied only by a few apertures to admit the air. Considerable innovations, however, have been made in the architecture of the country with regard to the face of this structure which is quite after the European fashion, presenting a very handsome front of about 110 feet long; a range of arches runs along the whole extent of the bottom part, the upper having a contiguous row of windows shut in by glass sashes and venetian blinds, a balustrade surmounting the whole. The front rooms are quite after the European manner, and visitors are received in an apartment the architecture and furniture of which differ in nothing from an English one; as to the interior arrangements, they are

doubtless more consonant to native ideas of excellence and comfort. The whole, however, is an exceedingly stately fabric presenting something greatly superior to most Hindoo palaces, being conceived and executed after a much better taste than those royal residences generally are; it is of brick and altogether finished with equal solidity as elegance". The superstructure of the palace was twice thoroughly repaired by the British. A clock-tower and a portico for parking the Commissioner's car were built at the right end of the palace in 1933.

Two life-size elephants made of mortar, striking in their majesty, catch the eye as one enters the fort.

The palace now houses all the important Government offices. A public library called the Mahatma Gandhi Public Library is in front of the palace to the right. In a room of this library building, a museum of historical relics and records has been opened recently.

THE OMKARESHWARA TEMPLE.—Another important structure erected by Lingarajendra in 1820 was the Omkareshwara temple in the hollow to the east of the fort. Tradition has it that Lingarajendra put to death a very learned, pious and good Brahmin unjustly and cruelly, for having prevented the satisfaction of his carnal desires, and that in consequence, the learned Brahmin's spirit turned into a "Brahma-Rakshasa" and began to torment the Raja day and night. Therefore, in order to appease the spirit of the Brahmin, the Raja, it is stated, built a temple and installed therein a "Shivalinga" specially brought for the purpose from Varanasi (Benares). The Shivalinga was called "Omkareshwara Linga" and the temple "Omkareshwara Temple". From that time, it is said, the Brahma-Rakshasa ceased to torment the Raja.

This temple is built in the Muhammadan style of architecture, with a dome in the centre and four turrets at the four corners. There is a tank below in front of the temple, in the middle of which there is a small "mantapam" connected by a narrow causeway. The temple and its surroundings present a calm atmosphere.

RAJAS' TOMBS.—Lingarajendra also completed the tomb of his elder brother Virarajendra, which had been begun in his life-time. The tomb is situated at the northern extremity of Mahadeopet and is enclosed by a high embankment. Viraraja's and his wife's remains are interred there. Virarajendra is deified and his samadhi is worshipped even to this day. In the same plain, to the right of Viraraja's tomb, is Lingarajendra's tomb, built by his son, Viraraja the younger, in 1820. There are also the tombs of the Raja's priest Rudrappa, built by Dewan Cheppudira Ponnappa in 1834, and of Biddandra

Bopu and his son Somayya, the Sarva Karyagaras (the chief commandants of the army) of Doddaviraraja and Chickaviraraja, respectively. There is a Kannada inscription on Bopu's tomb inscribed by the orders of Doddavirarajendra, paying tribute to his services to the Raja, in the latter's wars against Tippu Sultan, and in his hunting expeditions.

An account of General Welsh's visit to the precincts of Viraraja's tomb with Lingarajendra Wodeyar in 1811, makes very interesting reading. He says, "The town is remarkably clean and well built, about half a mile off by an excellent high road and at the farther extremity there is a rising ground, with a strong mud barrier, after entering which you come upon a small plain with a magnificent tomb, erected by the present Raja to the memory of his late brother and his wife. It is much in the style of Muhammadan edifices, being a wide square with a handsome dome in the centre and four turrets at the angles. On the top of the dome is a gold ball, with a weather cock above it, and all the window bars are made of solid brass".

THE RAJA'S SEAT.—The "Raja's Seat" is an elevated spot overlooking a vast green area. It commands a thrilling view. It is no wonder that this lovely spot should have been such a favourite place of recreation with the Rajas and be permanently associated with their names. Standing in the "mantapam", the visitor may see one of the finest and most fascinating views in all Coorg or anywhere in the south. Immediately below is an extensive valley, studded with paddy fields. The road to Mangalore, meandering its course down the hill, looks just like a curved ribbon lying in the valley. Beyond the valley stand in majestic silence the blue mountain peaks. One range of mountain towers above another, until in the distance the mountains meet the sky. The golden light of the setting sun rests on the scene, adding new grace and splendour to it.

BUILDINGS AND OTHER PLACES.—A little away to the west of the Parade Ground is the magnificent building of the Government First Grade College, built in 1953 and situated on a hillock in ideal surroundings.

Another stately building in Mercara, the Town Hall, was built in the year 1954, almost at the entrance to the town. It is built in the middle of the Coronation Garden which was opened in 1912. The Municipal Offices are located in a portion of this building. Public meetings and other functions are held here and for this purpose seating accommodation for about one thousand persons has been provided.

Other buildings worth mentioning in Mercara are the "*Sudarshana*", formerly called "Beauvoir", the former residence

of the Chief Commissioners of Coorg and now a guest house, the Central Co-operative Bank at the entrance to the town, the travellers' bungalow below the southern toll-gate, the Women and Children's Hospital to the right of the Mysore road near the toll-gate and the Cardamom Marketing Society building. The "*Sudarshana*" was built in 1912, but the other buildings were built more recently. A "mantapa" over the sacred *asthi* of Mahatma Gandhi was built in 1956 to the left of the road leading to the Raja's Seat.

Mercara owed its importance in the beginning entirely to its being the residence of the Rajas.

In 1817, there were only 300 houses in Mercara. Its prosperity began after the coming of the British and the opening of Coorg to outside trade and communication. It was constituted into a municipality in 1870, when it had a population of 8,146. The population of Mercara in 1951 was 10,117 and according to the census of 1961, it was 14,453. The Municipality has been divided into twelve wards for purposes of efficient administration.

Mercara is developing into an industrial and educational centre. There is a Government Central Workshop and a Government Press which cater to the requirements of Government work. Among the educational institutions in Mercara, mention may be made of the First Grade College, two co-educational high schools, a high school for girls, an Industrial Training Institute and the Government Co-operative Training Institute.

Mercara is a very pleasant place for the tourists during the months of October to May. The climate of Mercara ranges from cool to cold. The temperature varies from 55°F in December to nearly 90°F in April. The average rainfall in Mercara is 128.42 inches, the rainiest months being June, July and August. There are good all-weather motorable roads from Mercara to Mysore, Hassan, South Kanara and Malabar.

A Tourist Rest Home has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,80,000 on the Stewart Hill, close to the Raja's Seat. This hill got its name from Donald Stewart, a planter who had his bungalow on this hill.

The place is increasingly attracting tourists. As there is a fine road connecting Mangalore with Mysore through Mercara, people travel by buses in large numbers from South Kanara to Mysore and Bangalore, and *vice-versa via* Mercara.

Mugutgere.—A place about eight miles from Virajpet noted for its remarkable hill. The hill is steep with precipitous rocky

acclivity towards the west. There is a small temple on the top. A big festival is held here in October every year.

Mullur.—This place is four miles from Sanivarasanthe and was once noted for its Jain basadis. But at present the basadis are in a dilapidated condition. The Gangas and Changalvas gave importance to this place.

Murkal.—This place in Virajpet taluk is reached from Mattigodu and Banavara, and is close to the Heggadadevanakote taluk of Mysore district. The place is noted for its saw mill, run by the State Government as a major industrial enterprise since 1954. A furniture factory is also functioning as an adjunct since 1955.

Murnad.—This is a place south of Mercara where a weekly shandy is held every Thursday attended by a good number of people from the surrounding villages.

Nagarhole.—The Nagarhole game sanctuary was constituted in July 1955, and extends over 111 square miles of reserved forests in the eastern region of the district. The game sanctuary comprises three forest ranges namely, Nagarhole, Kalhalla and Tithimathi. It adjoins the State forests along its eastern and south-eastern boundaries, and a portion of Wynad forests of Kerala State, in the south. The vegetation in the sanctuary is of a tropical, moist, and deciduous type. There are also large areas (nearly 12,000 acres) of teak plantations within the sanctuary, the oldest plantation being the 1868 teak plantation at Karmad.

The sanctuary is situated at a distance of 38 miles from Virajpet, and is close to Heggadadevanakote taluk of Mysore district. It is accessible by a good all-weather motorable road from Tithimathi which branches off from the Mysore-Virajpet road. The sanctuary is also accessible by road from Heggadadevanakote in Mysore district, through Murkal in Coorg. There is a forest lodge here. The sanctuary affords an excellent opportunity to the visitors to see wild animals of all kinds, from the majestic elephant and the graceful spotted deer to the wily jackal, moving about in their natural surroundings unmindful of intruders.

Most of the South Indian species of animals are represented in this game sanctuary. Wild elephant, bison, spotted deer, sambur, barking deer, wild pig and sloth-bear are commonly met with. Spotted deer and sambur are particularly in abundance. Tigers and panthers are also occasionally seen. The elephant camps of the Forest Department, particularly the Hebballa

elephant camp, on the banks of the Lakshmanathirtha river, are another attraction to the visitors.

The sanctuary has motorable roads and rest houses at frequent intervals, which enable the tourists to visit every corner of the sanctuary without difficulty. There are convenient rest-houses at Nagarhole, Kalhalla, Murkal and Tithimathi. For a good view of the animals in the sanctuary, it will be particularly convenient to the visitors to go on elephant back—the Forest Department hires out elephants for this purpose—early in the morning or in the evening, when it is possible to watch the animals, undisturbed, from a near distance.

Under the Second Five-Year Plan, a sum of rupees one lakh was provided for the improvement of the game sanctuary. This amount was utilised mainly for providing more amenities to the visitors, such as improvement to the rest-house, laying out roads to the interior of the sanctuary, maintenance of a motor van for the visitors to go round the sanctuary and provision of other facilities.

Even within a short period after the sanctuary was constituted, a change for the better was noticeable in the fauna. The population of many of the species of animals, particularly those of the deer tribe, has increased appreciably. The game sanctuary has become a pleasant spot of recreation not only for the people of Coorg, but also for those from outside.

The Nalkeri forest region in the confines of which this sanctuary is situated, affords variegated faunistic pattern in the post-monsoon months of the year.

Nalknad.—The principal country palace of the Coorg Rajas, built by Doddaviraraj endra in 1792 is in Yevakapadi village of Nalknad. It is situated close to Tadiandamol, the highest peak in Coorg. The building itself is a very ordinary structure of two storeys. The lower portion was formerly used as the Nad cutcherry, and the upper one was kept for the accommodation of European visitors. In front of the palace is an elegant little " mantapa ", erected in 1796 on the occasion of the celebration of the Raja's marriage with Mahadevammaji. The place is situated on a precipitous ridge and is not easily accessible; the Rajas did not want their seclusion being subjected to interference. When they resided here, it was difficult for any one to approach the building. At present, a bee-keeping centre is located in this palace.

Nanjarajapatna.—This was once the headquarters of the old Nanjarajapatna taluk. Since the formation of the Somwarpet taluk, this place has lost much of its importance. The town was the

last resting place of Nanjunda or Nanjaraja, the exiled king of Periyapatna. There is a temple here dedicated to Nanjundeshwara.

Napoklu.—A village situated near the right bank of the Cauvery, 14 miles south-west of Mercara. The place is noted for its rich paddy fields and cardamom plantations.

Pollibetta.—A place in Ammathinad, six miles from Siddapur in Virajpet taluk. The Consolidated Coffee Estates Ltd., a venture of the coffee-producers, has its head-office here. The place is telephonically linked with Mercara. The Consolidated Coffee Estates Ltd., has a network of estates all over the district. The only co-operative institution for orange-growers in the district is also situated here.

Ponnampet.—A busy market place, once in the old Kiggatnad taluk, it is now included in the Virajpet taluk as the *nad* head-quarters of the same name. Though the ordinary market for the taluk is at Gonikoppal, the chief centre for paddy trade is Ponnampet. The traders in paddy are mostly Moplahs who come from Malabar to transact business. These Moplahs also advance money to the raiyats from early June, but more usually in October-November. This is redeemed during the harvest time, the actual redemption being done at the cultivator's door. Ponnampet is full of petty traders who sell their paddy stock to large traders from Malabar

As this is a paddy-growing centre, an agricultural farm was started in 1931 with an extent of 21.66 acres of wet land. Originally, this farm was located in Virajpet, but as it was felt that it would be more suitable to have it in Ponnampet, the location of the farm was shifted to this place.

This place is famous for the Sri Ramakrishna Mission institutions which are doing very useful service to the people in and around the town. A hospital is also run by the mission in this place.

Ramaswami Kanive.—This place is on the way from Kudige to Konanur in Hassan district. The Ramaswami temple situated here is of ancient origin and noted for its sanctity. Vaishyas, Vokkaligas, Devangas and other Hindus come here to celebrate weddings. This place is as famous as the "Kengal Hanumantharayanagudi" on the Bangalore-Mysore road, for the celebration of marriages. It is considered that no special "muhurtham" is necessary to celebrate weddings at this place. The river Cauvery flows close to the temple and runs into a wide stretch. This is also a market centre. It was here that the British troops crossed the Cauvery when they invaded Coorg under General Fraser in 1834.

Sampaje.—A village on the foot hills of the Western Ghats towards the Puttur taluk of South Kanara district. The village has a forest lodge and is in the midst of thick evergreen jungle. The place assumed importance because of the Sampaje ghat road or, as it is familiarly called, the Mangalore road, constructed in 1837. It is also called "Fast's Ghat", so named in recognition of the professional skill of the young European engineer who unfortunately fell a victim to the jungle fever. This ghat road leading towards South Kanara was improved through the years and is now easily negotiable, though in the early years of its construction it was tortuous. The ascent from Sampaje to Mercara gives the motorist a thrilling and fascinating experience. Prior to the States' reorganisation, Sampaje had a prohibition check post and a toll-gate.

Sanivarasanthe.—A place situated 40 miles north of Mercara.

Sanivarasanthe, meaning "Saturday fair", indicates the character of the place. It was originally called "Hemmage". Its inhabitants are mostly weavers. The large weekly market as well as its favourable situation on the main road give the place its importance. Sanivarasanthe is noted for the cattle show held during Gudugalale jatra in February or March each year. This show attracts thousands of cattle from the neighbouring Hassan and Mysore districts.

The town which was constituted into a Notified area in the year 1954 has been upgraded into a town municipality in 1965. There is one Government middle school and one private high school here. There is also a Government Civil Hospital in this place.

Siddapur.—An important place affording easy means of communication with the eastern portion of the district and also with Mysore. Roads from here lead to Pollibetta and Virajpet through Ammathi (former Colepet). The area between Siddapur and Ammathi is called the "bamboo district" because of the luxuriant growth of bamboo all over. Every Sunday a market is held here, visited by labourers of the neighbouring coffee estates and raiyats from the neighbouring villages.

Sirangulli.—Three miles from this place is a lofty mountain towards the north of Mercara taluk. Amongst the many ridges that branch off from the Subramanya range of the ghats, the most remarkable is that which attains its greatest height in Kote-betta. From Mercara, this peak is only nine miles as the crow flies. Its elevation is 5,375 feet, and its base covers a very large extent of country. Its summit, which is divided into two peaks, one rather pointed—the Harangal-betta—and the other broad, forms a comparatively flat table-land, while its sides are clothed with forest;

innumerable cultivated valleys occupy the recesses. Close to the apex, there are two reservoirs of water, which retain a constant supply all the year round. Very near the summit, on a spacious platform, is a small Shiva temple built with rough granite slabs.

Soma Male.—A lofty mountain in Kadiyatnad. It is sacred to Male-tambiran, a form of god Ishwara. There is a temple dedicated to Male-tambiran in the middle of this hill.

Somwarpet.—Headquarters of the Somwarpet taluk, where a weekly market is held every Monday. This place is on the highway from Mercara to Hassan. In the old days, this place was an important centre in the Nanjarajapatna taluk. Around Somwarpet there are good coffee plantations, cardamom estates, paddy fields and orange orchards.

Srimangala.—This place is in Virajpet taluk and is the headquarters of the Srimangalanad. Pilgrims going to Irupu pass through this place.

Suntikoppa.—This place is the headquarters of a *nad* of the same name, situated on the Mysore-Mercara road, eight miles from the district headquarters town. A weekly shandy is held here every Sunday, which is frequented by thousands of coffee estate labourers. The road towards Mercara as well as to Mysore is always full of traffic. A police outpost is located here. There is a wide stretch of bamboo forests around the place.

Tadiandamol.—The highest mountain in Coorg (5,724 feet) situated in the south-west of the district in Napoklunad in Mercara taluk. To reach the summit, one has to camp in Yevakapadi and trek one's way through dense jungle to the base of the mountain. The summit raises its gracefully shaped head over its majestic neighbours, behind the Nalknad palace.

The ascent to the mountain-top is tortuous, and two-thirds of the journey has to be achieved on horse-back. Though the topmost portion is rather difficult to ascend, the persevering climber is richly rewarded for his exertion when, in the cool bracing air, he stands on the narrow ledge of the giddy summit and gazes over the gloriously diversified highlands and lowlands. The panoramic vista towards the west is indescribably beautiful. On clear days, one can also see the coast line

Talakaveri.—Talakaveri is the birth place of the sacred river, Cauvery. It is situated on the slopes of the Brahmagiri Hills, and can be reached by a motorable road from Bhagamandala, which is at a distance of about five miles. There are regular buses to Bhagamandala from Mercara. There are temples dedicated to Ishwara and Ganapathi at the source of the Cauvery.

The "Tula Sankramana" day (usually falling in the month of October) is regarded as the most auspicious day for visiting Talakaveri. There is a small square tank by the side of a fairly big tank in Talakaveri, which is the source of the river. Devout pilgrims believe that on the day of the "Tula Sankramana", at an auspicious moment, the holy Cauvery appears, and that her arrival is indicated by a sudden upsurge of the water in the pond.

The Cauvery jatra which begins on the Tula Sankramana day continues for one full month and is an event of great importance to the people of Coorg and the surrounding districts. The interesting description of the jatra, given in the Gazetteer of Coorg written about 90 years ago, may be reproduced here.

"About the middle of October, all Coorg prepares for the grand festival of Kaveri. The sun has gained the ascendancy over the monsoon clouds. A few passing showers only may still be expected. The rice valleys are clothed with rich paddy approaching maturity; the forests and grass hills are resplendent with the freshness and beauty of spring. Every Coorg house sends one or two representatives to Tala-kaveri. Also pilgrims from Malayalam, Tuluva and Mysore repair to the sacred place by thousands. The nearer the pilgrims approach the end of their journey, the more frequent and the more numerous are the festive caravans of men, women and children in holiday costume, who now rest in picturesque groups on the shady banks of streams, now proceed in gay defiles over the grassy hills.

"With the last ascent of a small elevation near the foot of the Tala-kaveri hill, the view of the upper basin of the Kaveri valley, which is rather wide and flanked by steep hills, suddenly bursts upon the view. The Bhagamandala temple with its copper roof is conspicuous in the middle of the valley and close to the Kaveri. A few rows of houses near it are changed into a busy mart. Thousands of people move to and fro, and the humming noise of the multitude sounds like the distant surf of the ocean. Hundreds are engaged in bathing in the sacred stream before they enter the temple, which forms a large square with an open centre, like a Coorg house. Along the road, pedlars are squatted behind their paltry wares, which are spread under a flimsy awning. Mendicant sanyasis, with hollow sounding conch and brass gong in hand, push, blowing and ringing, through the crowd. Hourly the multitude increases; new arrivals descend from all the neighbouring mountain pathways into the valley.

"Hundreds of people have already proceeded to reach the Kaveri source in order to build for themselves and their expected friends sheltering booths against the cold damp night air. A pathway leads over paddy-fields, through steep jungle, and

over rocky mountain ridges, to the sacred spot. As they ascend, they shout 'Narayana ! O, Narayana ! and the echo is taken up by succeeding caravans. Near the summit there is an overhanging rock, called "Bhima Kallu", which forms a sheltering abode for some sadhus during the festive season. The source of the river is enclosed by a stone basin, over which a small shrine of granite slabs is built. From this reservoir the pure water percolates into a tank of about 30 feet square, which by an outlet keeps the water to a level of 2½ feet. On two sides, there are rough stone terraces scooped out of the hill side, and above the third terrace, on a dip of the hill, there is a small square temple dedicated to Ganapathi, with a few huts close by for the abode of the resident Brahmin pujaris.

"At the moment, as fixed by the astrologer, of the sun's entering into the sign of Libra, whether by day or by night, the pilgrim who is anxious to experience the full power of the sin-cleansing bath, must descend into the holy tank. With the approach of the hour, an ever-increasing multitude surround the tank, impatiently waiting for the propitious moment. Now the priest gives the sign, and the living throng, old and young, men and women, rush in wild confusion into the water, duck three times and drink as often of the water, and on emerging, offer a small gift to the priests, who sit near the shrine, receive the money and pour some pure water over the devotee's head. Before leaving, most of the pilgrims fill a hollow reed (wotte) with water from the sacred spring, and carry it home for the benefit of their relatives and for purifying their wells. The effectual bathing season lasts for a whole month, but with decreasing virtue. From 8,000 to 15,000 pilgrims may annually visit Talakaveri".

After reaching the source of the Cauvery, many people, particularly the young and the able-bodied, climb up about 300 feet to the summit of the Brahmagiri peak where, it is said, the seven great sages meditated. A distinguished writer says about the scenery from Brahmagiri thus: "Standing on a bright November morning on the summit of the Brahmagiri near Talakaveri, the head or source of that river, the observer is filled with delight and admiration of the grand and picturesque view that opens out before him. As far as the eye can reach to the north-west and south-east, it beholds ridge after ridge of grassy or forest-clad hills, now gently sloping down in wavy lines, now bold and abrupt, raising their steep summits into the clear blue air. Kudremukha Betta, the far seen land-mark of the mariner, bursts into view from Canara. The Bettadapur and Chamundi Hills in Mysore, the Wynad mountains of Malabar, and even the range of the distant Nilgiris are clearly visible, while in the west at a distance of about 30 miles below the steep precipices of the ghats, the coast line of North Malabar and South Kanara, intersected by

broad, bright, serpentine rivers, and beyond, the dark blue Arabian Sea dotted with sailing craft fascinate the spectator".

The great heroes of the "Mahabbharatha", the Pandavas, are said to have visited these regions during their exile. Reminiscent of the visit of these mighty men of a distant epoch, is a huge rock called "Bhima Kallu" (the stone of Bhima) seen on the way to Talakaveri from Bhagamandala. The place where the pilgrim gets his first view of Talakaveri is only three furlongs as one approaches the sacred spot, and is called "Salam Kallu". Both while approaching the Talakaveri and while returning from there, the pilgrims salute Mother Cauvery from this spot. The name "Salam Kallu" which means "the place from which obeisance is made" to Cauvery, carries with it a story. Tippu, the ambitious ruler of Mysore in the eighteenth century, attacked Coorg repeatedly. It is said that at this place he was over-powered by the mystic powers of the goddess Cauvery, and he retreated after making obeisance to her.

Apart from its importance as a centre of pilgrimage. Talakaveri is an ideal place for a visit by any tourist, for its natural beauty.

Tomara.—Some seven miles from Virajpet towards the Kerala border is Tomara, noted for its fine waterfall. Though the waterfall is small, it gives a good effect, situated as it is in a thick jungle. The fall attains its maximum force during the monsoon months.

Virajpet.—A town situated 20 miles south of Mercara. It is the headquarters of the taluk of the same name. There are two motorable roads linking Mercara and Virajpet.

This flourishing town was founded by Dodda Virarajendra in 1792, in commemoration of the meeting which took place between himself and General Abercromby at this place, while the latter was advancing with the British forces from Bombay against Srirangapatna. The place was therefore formerly known as Virarajendrapet. The Christian population includes the Roman Catholic community of Konkanis, who escaped from the persecution of Tippu, and to whom the Coorg Raja granted a settlement here. The trade of Virajpet with the western coast in coffee, rice, and cardamom makes it the most important commercial town in Coorg. A good motorable road connects it with Cannanore and Tellicherry on the west coast in Kerala.

It is prettily situated at the foot of the Maletambiran hill, on the top of which is a large squarely built temple. Every Wednesday there is a fair, which attracts a great concourse of people. Next to the public offices, the most conspicuous building

is the Roman Catholic Church. It was re-built in Gothic style, with a copper roof, under the direction of Father Guillon, who decorated the interior with paintings and statues of his own execution.

The civic needs of the town are being administered by a municipality since the year 1870. For purposes of efficient administration, it has been divided into fifteen wards. The Municipality maintains a primary school, a nursery school and a free reading room. The town hall at Virajpet was constructed in the year 1935 by the Municipal Council. There is a clock-tower in an elevated place in the central part of the town.

Watekolli.—A place situated in Virajpet taluk on the arterial highway to Cannanore through the Periambadi ghat. This is almost the border village near the Kerala frontier. The road from Virajpet to Cannanore and Tellicherry passes through Watekolli to Makut which is about a mile from Kutupole, a river that separates Mysore from Kerala in this part of the country. This is also called the " Cherrapunji of Coorg " as the rainfall here during the south-west monsoon reaches up to 400 inches. Watekolli is the heaviest rainfall area, next to Bhagamandala. This place was once in the Yedenalknad taluk.

Yevakapadi.—The Nalknad palace built by Doddavirarajendra Wodeyar in 1791 is situated in this village. There is a shrine dedicated to goddess Pannangalathamme This deity is worshipped mostly by the Harijans. The annual festival held in April every year is attended by a large number of people.

APPENDIX

PRINCIPAL TABLES

TABLE 1

AREA AND POPULATION BY TALUKS

Sl. No.	Taluk	Area: Commissioner for Land Records, Survey and Settlement		Area: Survey of India		Population 1961			Population in 1951
		Sq. miles	Sq. Km.	Sq. miles	Sq. Km.	Rural	Urban	Total	
1.	Mercara .. .	566	1,465.9	556.90	1,447.54	65,087	14,453	79,540	57,128
2.	Somwarpet . ..	386	999.8	379 88	983.88	94,689	14,728	1,09,417	1,02,365
3.	Virajpet	638	1,652.4	648.00	1,678.31	1,20,364	13,508	1,33,872	69,912
	Tota ..	1,590	4,118.1	1,586.78	4,109.73	2,80,140	42,689	3,22,829	2,29,405

TABLE 2

LITERACY IN TOWNS, 1961

Sl. No.	Town	Literates in 1951			Percentage of literates (1951)	Literates in 1961			Percentage of literates (1961)
		Men	Women	Total		Men	Women	Total	
1.	Mercara	3,437	1,939	5,376	53.1	5,647	3,483	9,130	63.17
2.	Somwarpet	918	123	1,041	34.1	1,549	862	2,411	46.98
3.	Hebbale	263	73	336	15 8	463	124	587	25.25
4.	Kodlipet	248	100	348	28.4	550	300	850	50.99
5.	Kushalnagar	425	196	621	33.1	965	513	1,478	50.93
6.	Sanivarasanthe	..	..	..	..	398	207	605	43.49
7.	Santikoppe	512	105	617	16.4	483	183	666	51.00
8.	Virajpet	2,208	1,137	3,345	54.5	2,695	1,784	4,479	55.04
9.	Gonikoppal	506	149	655	38.3	929	338	1,267	46.09
10.	Ponnampet	521	212	733	37.6	857	459	1,316	50.21
	Total ..	9,041	4,031	13,072	41.0	14,536	8,253	22,789	53.98

TABLE 3

LITERACY BY TALUKS, 1961 CENSUS

Sl. No.	Taluk	*Literates, 1951*			*Literates, 1961*		
		Men	*Women*	*Total*	*Men*	*Women*	*Total*
1.	Mercara	12,655	7,217	19,872	22,907	14,153	37,060
2.	Virajpet . ..	20,991	10,203	31,194	30,876	18,337	49,213
3.	Somwarpet .. .	9.012	2,352	11,364	21,595	9,206	30,801
	Total ..	42,658	19,772	62,430	75,378	41,696	1,17,074

A. LIVESTOCK POPULATION IN COORG DISTRICT—CATTLE AND BUFFALOES POPULATION AS ASCERTAINED BY THE CENSUS OF 1961.

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Cattle			Buffaloes		
		Males	*Females*	*Total*	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*
1.	Mercara	22,714	19,816	42,530	5,212	2,608	7,820
2.	Somwarpet	32,887	32,773	65,660	3,752	6,377	10,129
3.	Virajpet .. .	36,325	27,704	64,029	12,517	6,290	18,807
	Total	91,926	80,293	1,72,219	21,481	15,275	36,756

LIVESTOCK POPULATION—(*Continued*)

B. Number of other Livestock as ascertained by the Census of 1961

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Total Bovine: Males	Total Bovine: Females	Total Bovine: Total	Sheep: Upto one year	Sheep: Over one year: Males	Sheep: Over one year: Females	Sheep: Over one year: Total	Total Sheep
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Mercara	27,026	22,424	50,350	762	3	5	8	770
2.	Somwarpet	36,639	39,150	75,789	245	92	93	185	430
3.	Virajpet	48,842	33,994	82,836	1,672	57	124	181	1,853
	Total	1,13,407	95,568	2,08,975	2,679	152	222	374	3,053

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Goats: Upto one year	Goats: Over one year: Males	Goats: Over one year: Females	Goats: Over one year: Total	Total Goats	Horses and Ponies: Males over 3 years	Horses and Ponies: Females over 3 years	Horses and Ponies: Upto one year: Males	Horses and Ponies: Upto one year: Females	Horses and Ponies: Upto one year: Total
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Mercara	14	71	71	142	156	12	8	2	4	6
2.	Somwarpet	756	808	1,265	2,073	2,829	26	30	3	9	12
3.	Virajpet	122	589	891	1,480	1,602	10	8	31	34	65
	Total	892	1,468	2,227	3,695	4,587	45	46	36	47	83

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Horses and Ponies: One to three years: Males	One to three years: Females	One to three years: Total	Total three years and under: Males	Total three years and under: Females	Total three years and under: Total	Total Horses and Ponies: Males	Total Horses and Ponies: Females	Total Horses and Ponies: Total	Mules	Donkeys
		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1.	Mercara	..	2	2	2	6	8	14	14	28	1	1
2.	Somwarpet	14	13	27	17	22	39	43	52	95	5	22
3.	Virajpet	9	20	29	40	54	94	50	62	112	..	79
	Total	23	35	58	59	82	141	107	128	235	6	102

LIVESTOCK POPULATION (*Continued*)

C. Poultry (1961 Census)

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Fowls				Total Fowls		Ducks				Others	Total poultry
		Hens	*Cocks*	*Chicken*	*Total*	*Desi*	*Improved*	*Ducks*	*Drakes*	*Ducklings*	*Total*		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Mercara	23,052	9,174	43,102	75,328	63,316	12,012	181	203	80	464	64	75,856
2.	Somwarpet	26,544	11,055	55,640	93,239	66,574	26,665	137	146	69	352	269	93,860
3.	Virajpet	36,668	13,089	62,816	1,12,573	90,868	21,705	602	994	421	2,017	204	1,14,794
	Total ..	86,264	33,318	1,61,558	2,81,140	2,20,758	60,382	920	1,343	570	2,833	537	2,84,810

AREA AND POPULATION BY TOWNS

Sl. No.	Town	Area sq miles	Area sq. km.	Population per sq. mile	Number of occupied residential houses	Population 1961 Persons	Population 1961 Males	Population 1961 Females
1.	Mercara	5.00	12.95	2,891	2,040	14,453	8,063	6,390
2.	Somwarpet	0 50	1.29	10,274	1,037	5,137	2,789	2,348
3.	Hebbale	0.80	2.07	2,906	431	2,325	1,151	1,174
4.	Kodlipet	0 20	0.52	8,335	343	1,667	881	786
5.	Kushalnagar	0.60	1.55	4,837	505	2,902	1,579	1,323
6	Sanivarasanthe	0.22	0 57	6.323	227	1,391	711	680
7	Suntikoppa	0 06	0.16	21,767	261	1,306	791	515
8.	Virajpet	2.0[illegible]	5.18	4,069	1.600	8,138	4,537	3,601
9.	Gonikoppal	0.[illegible]0	0.26	27,490	494	2,749	1,717	1,032
10.	Ponnampet	0.[illegible]0	2 33	2,912	601	2.621	1,456	1,165
	Total	10.38	26 88	[illegible],105	7,539	42,689	23,675	19,014

Conversion Factors

Length—

1 inch= 2.54 centimetres

1 foot=30.48 centimetres

1 yard=91.44 centimetres

1 mile= 1.61 kilometres

1 nautical mile (UK)=1853.18 metres

1 nautical mile (international)=1852 metres

Volume—

1 cubic foot=0.028 cubic metre

Area—

1 square foot=0.093 square metres

1 square yard=0.836 square metres

1 square mile=2.59 square kilometres

1 acre=0.405 hectare

Capacity—

1 gallon (Imperial)=4.55 litres

1 seer (80 tolas)=0.937 litre

1 Madras measure=1.77 litres

Temperature—

t° Fahrenheit=9/5 (T° centigrade) + 32

Metric Weights and Measures

Length—

10 millimetres = 1 centimetre

100 centimetres = 1 metre.

1,000 metres = 1 kilometre.

1,852 metres = 1 nautical mile (international).

Area—

100 square millimetres = 1 square centimetre.

10,000 square centimetres = 1 square metre or centiare.

100 square metres = 1 are.

100 ares = 1 hectare.

100 hectare or 1,000,000 square metres = 1 square kilometre.

Volume—

1,000,000 cubic centimetres = 1 cubic metre.

Capacity—

1,000 millilitres = 1 litre.

1,000 litres = 1 kilolitre

Weights—

1,000 milligrams = 1 gram.

1,000 grams = 1 kilogram.

100 kilograms = 1 quintal.

1,000 kilograms = 1 tonne.

200 milligrams = 1 carat.

Monetary Conversion Table

Annas	Pies	Paise	Annas	Pies	Paise
0	3	2	8	3	52
0	6	3	8	6	53
0	9	5	8	9	55
1	0	6	9	0	56
1	3	8	9	3	58
1	6	9	9	6	59
1	9	11	9	9	61
2	0	12	10	0	62
2	3	14	10	3	64
2	6	16	10	6	66
2	9	17	10	9	67
3	0	19	11	0	69
3	3	20	11	3	70
3	6	22	11	6	72
3	9	23	11	9	73
4	0	25	12	0	75
4	3	27	12	3	77
4	6	28	12	6	78
4	9	30	12	9	80
5	0	31	13	0	81
5	3	33	13	3	83
5	6	34	13	6	84
5	9	36	13	9	86
6	0	37	14	0	87
6	3	39	14	3	89
6	6	41	14	6	91
6	9	42	14	9	92
7	0	44	15	0	94
7	3	45	15	3	95
7	6	47	15	6	97
7	9	48	15	9	98
8	0	50	16	0	100

Pies 12=Anna 1
Annas 16=Rupee 1

Re. 1=Paise 100.

Weights in existence in Coorg prior to the introduction of Metric Weights and their equivalents

Chataks	*Tolas*	*Grams*	*Chataks*	*Tolas*	*Grams*
1	$\frac{245}{144}$	20	9	$\frac{245}{16}$	180
2	$\frac{245}{72}$	40	10	$\frac{1,225}{72}$	200
3	$\frac{245}{48}$	60	11	$\frac{2,695}{144}$	220
4	$\frac{245}{36}$	80	12	$\frac{245}{12}$	240
5	$\frac{1,225}{144}$	100	13	$\frac{3,185}{144}$	260
6	$\frac{245}{24}$	120	14	$\frac{1,715}{72}$	280
7	$\frac{1,715}{114}$	140	15	$\frac{1,225}{48}$	300
8	$\frac{245}{18}$	160	16	$\frac{245}{9}$	320

Seers	*Tolas*	*Kilograms*	*Grams*	*Seers*	*Tolas*	*Kilograms*	*Grams*
1	27 2/9	..	320	21	571 2/3	6.72	6,720
2	54 4/9	..	640	22	598 8/9	7.04	7,040
3	81 2/3	..	960	23	626 1/9	7.36	7,360
4	108	1.28	1,280	24	653 1/3	7.68	7,680
5	136 1/9	1.6	1,600	25	680 5/9	8.00	8,000
6	163 1/3	1.92	1,920	26	707 7/9	8.32	8,320
7	190 5/9	2.24	2,240	27	735	8.64	8,640
8	217 7/9	2.56	2,560	28	762 2/9	8.96	8,960
9	245	2.88	2,880	29	789 4/9	9.28	9,280
10	272 2/9	3.2	3,200	30	819 2/3	9.60	9,600
11	299 4/9	3.52	3,520	31	843 8/9	9.92	9,920
12	326 2/3	3.84	3,840	32	871 1/9	10.24	10,240
13	353 8/9	4.16	4,160	33	898 1/3	10.56	10,560
14	381 1/9	4.48	4,480	34	925 4/9	10.88	10,880
15	408 1/3	4.8	4,800	35	952 7/9	11.20	11,200
16	435 5/9	5.12	5,120	36	960	11.52	11,520
17	462 7/9	5.44	5,440	37	1,107 2/9	11.84	11,840
18	490	5.76	5,760	38	1,134 4/9	12.16	12,160
19	517 2/9	6.08	6,080	39	1,161 2/3	12.48	12,480
20	544 4/9	6.4	6,400	40	1,188 8/9	12.80	12,800

Maunds	*Kilograms*	*Maunds*	*Kilograms*
1	12.8	7	89.6
2	25.6	8	102.4
3	38.4	9	115.2
4	51.2	10	128.0
5	64.0	15	192.0
6	76.8	20	256.0

Metric Weights and their equivalents in F.P.S. System and in the District of Coorg

Sl. No.	*Weights in Metric System* 1 *kg.* = 1,000 *gms.*		*Equivalents in F.P.S. System*		*Equivalents in the District of Coorg*		
	kg.	g.	Lbs.	Oz.	Mds.	Srs.	Tolas
1	50	..	110	3 5/8	3	36	25
2	20	..	44	1 1/2	1	22	21
3	10	..	22	3/4	0	31	10 1/2
4	5	..	11	3/8	0	15	19
5	2	..	4	6 1/4	0	6	8
6	1	..	2	3 1/8	0	3	4
7		500	1	1 1/2	0	1	16
8		200	0	7	0	0	17
9		100	0	3 1/2	0	0	8 1/2
10		50	0	1 3/4	0	0	4 1/3
11		20	0	7/8	0	0	1 3/4
12		10	0	7/16	0	0	17/20
13		5	0	3/16	0	0	2/5
14		2	0	3/40	0	0	1/6
15		1	0	3/80	0	0	1/12

Measures which were in use in Coorg District and their equivalents.

Seer	*Pav*	*Chatak*			*Seer*	*Millilitre*
1	2	3	2 litres	.	1	1,166
0	3	1 ½	1 litre	..	1/2	583
..	1	2 3/4	500 ml	..	1/4	291
..	..	2 3/4	200 ml	..	1/8	148
..	..	1 3/8	100 ml	..	1/16	72 1/2
..	..	3/4	50 ml	..	1/32	36 1/4
..	..	1/4	20 ml	..		

Denominations of litre measure in use.

20 litres	1 litre
10 litres	500 ml
5 litres	200 ml
2 litres	100 ml

Cylindrical type Aluminium pouring and dipping measures, for liquids only.

G. I Conical measures for Kerosene and motor oils only

1 Gallon = 4.55 litres

1 Bottle = 750 ml.

1 litre = 1,000 millilitre

ERRATA

Page	*Line*	*Incorrect*	*Correct*
41	Last line	beginnig	beginning
44	30	fendatories	feudatories
152	6	adition	addition
183	4	insterest	interest
200	18	predominently	predominantly
210	Penultimate line	availabilty	availability
290	40	indigenoous	indigenous
304	16	suupervision	supervision
355	13	handing	hand
356	42-43	District. Judge	District Judge
362	27	esatblished	established
408	6	26 1	28
455	Line 3 of 3rd marginal heading	collectiona	collections
470	Penultimate column-heading	sociat	social
478	19	coffe	coffee
480	37	1955	1956
497	34	Malayam	Malayalam
502	18	peopo	people
505	23	familes	families

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Buchanan, Dr. .. Journey in Mysore, etc., 1807

Cole, Capt. R. A. .. A Manual of Coorg Civil Law, 1871

Connor, Lieut. .. Memoir of the Codagu Survey—Koorg—Parts I & II, 1817

Dave, J. H. .. Immortal India, Vol. IV, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bombay.

Derrett, J. Duncan M. .. The Hoysalas, A Medieval Indian Royal Family.

Krishna Iyer, L. A. .. The Coorg Tribes and Castes, 1948

Krishnayya, D. N. .. A Souvenir on Coorg, 1960 — issued by the Canara Banking Corporation.

Lingarajendra Wodeyar, Raja of Coorg Hukumnama (translated into English by A. J. Curgenven, I.C.S.)

Moegling, Dr. H. .. Coorg Memoirs, 1855

Muthanna, I.M. .. A Tiny Model State

Rice, Lewis .. Coorg Inscriptions, 1914.

Rice, Lewis .. Mysore and Coorg, A Gazetteer compiled for the Government of India, Vol. III, Coorg 1878.

Rice, Lewis .. Provincial Gazetteers of India, Mysore State (with a Section on Coorg)

Richter, Rev. G. .. Manual of Coorg, A Gazetteer, 1870.

Srinivas, Dr. M. N. .. Religion and Society among the Coorgs of South India

Wilks. Lt. Col. Mark .. History of Mysore

. . . .

Coorg and its Rajas—Published in London, 1857.

Coorg District Gazetteer, B Vol. 1926.

Coorg Rajas' Letters to the Governors-General of India, 1799 and 1834.

Manuscript Records of Chikkavirarajendra Wodeyar's time, preserved in the record room of Deputy Commissioner's office, Mercara.

Papers about the last Raja of Coorg—printed by the House of Commons, London, 1865.

Rajendraname, a History of Haleri Rajas from about 1600 to 1807, compiled by order of Dodda Virarajendra Wodeyar.

MISCELLANEOUS WORKS.

Annual Administration Reports of the Coorg Coffee-Growers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Mercara, 1960-61, the Coorg Cardamom Marketing Co-operative Society Ltd., Mercara, 1959-60, the Coorg Honey and Wax Producers' Co-operative Society Ltd., Virajpet, 1959-60 and 1960-61, the Coorg Progressive Honey Producers' Co-operative Society Ltd., Bhagamandala, 1959-60 and 1960-61 and the Coorg Orange-Growers' Co-operative Society Ltd., Pollibetta, 1961.

Annual Administration Reports of the various Departments of the Government of Mysore.

Annual Report of the Archaeological Survey of Mysore for 1933 (Page 228).

Annual Reports on the Administration of Coorg for the years 1868-69, 1871-72, 1900-01, 1903-04, 1924-25, 1932-33, 1952-53, and 1954 55.

Assessment Reports for Five Taluks of Coorg, 1910.

Barapole Hydro-electric Project (Preliminary Report of the Advisory Board), 1953.

Brief Outline of the Second Five-Year Plan (Government of Mysore), Coorg District, 1956.

Census Handbooks, Coorg, 1901, 1911, 1921, 1931 and 1951.

Census of Government Employees as on 31st March, 1959—Department of Statistics, 1961.

Census of India, Report and Tables, 1911, Vol. XI, Coorg 1912.

Census of India, Reports, Coorg, 1891, 1921, 1931, 1941 and 1951.

Census of India, 1931, Vol. XIII, Coorg.

Census of India, 1961, First Figures, Mysore State.

Census of India, 1961, Vol. XI, Mysore.

Community Development in Mysore State (Annual Review for 1958-59) 1960.

Coorg Information Bulletin, August, 1956.

Coorg State—A Brief Account of the Progress made during 1952-56 published by the Government of Coorg.

Delimitation of Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies Orders, 1956 and 1961.

Economic Situation in Mysore (Review of Economic Conditions in Mysore State), Department of Statistics, 1961.

General Assessment Report for Coorg (1910).

Guide to Coorg—published by the Government of Coorg.

Handbook of Industries, Coorg District, 1962.

Key Indicators, Mysore State, Department of Statistics, 1960.

Manual of Election Law, 1961.

Mysore 1951-1961, A Bird's Eye View of Progress achieved during the last ten years, Government of Mysore, 1961.

Mysore At a Glance—A Statistical Outline, 1960 and 1962.

Mysore Dasara Exhibition Souvenirs for 1959 and 1961.

Note on Progress of Industries in Mysore and future development programme, 1961.

Report of the Coorg Economic Committee, 1935.

Report of the Secondary Education Commission, 1951-1953.

Report of the States' Reorganisation Commission, 1955.

Report of the Third Five-Year Plan, Coorg District, 1945.

Report on the Administration of Mysore for the year 1956-57—1959

Report on the Post-war Reconstruction, Planning and Development in Coorg, 1945.

Report on the Second General Elections, 1957.

Returns of Large Industrial Establishments in the Mysore State for the Calendar year 1956—1958.

Second All-India Malnad Conference Souvenir, Mercara, 1955.

States' Reorganisation Act, 1956.

Statistical Abstract of Mysore, 1959-60—1961.

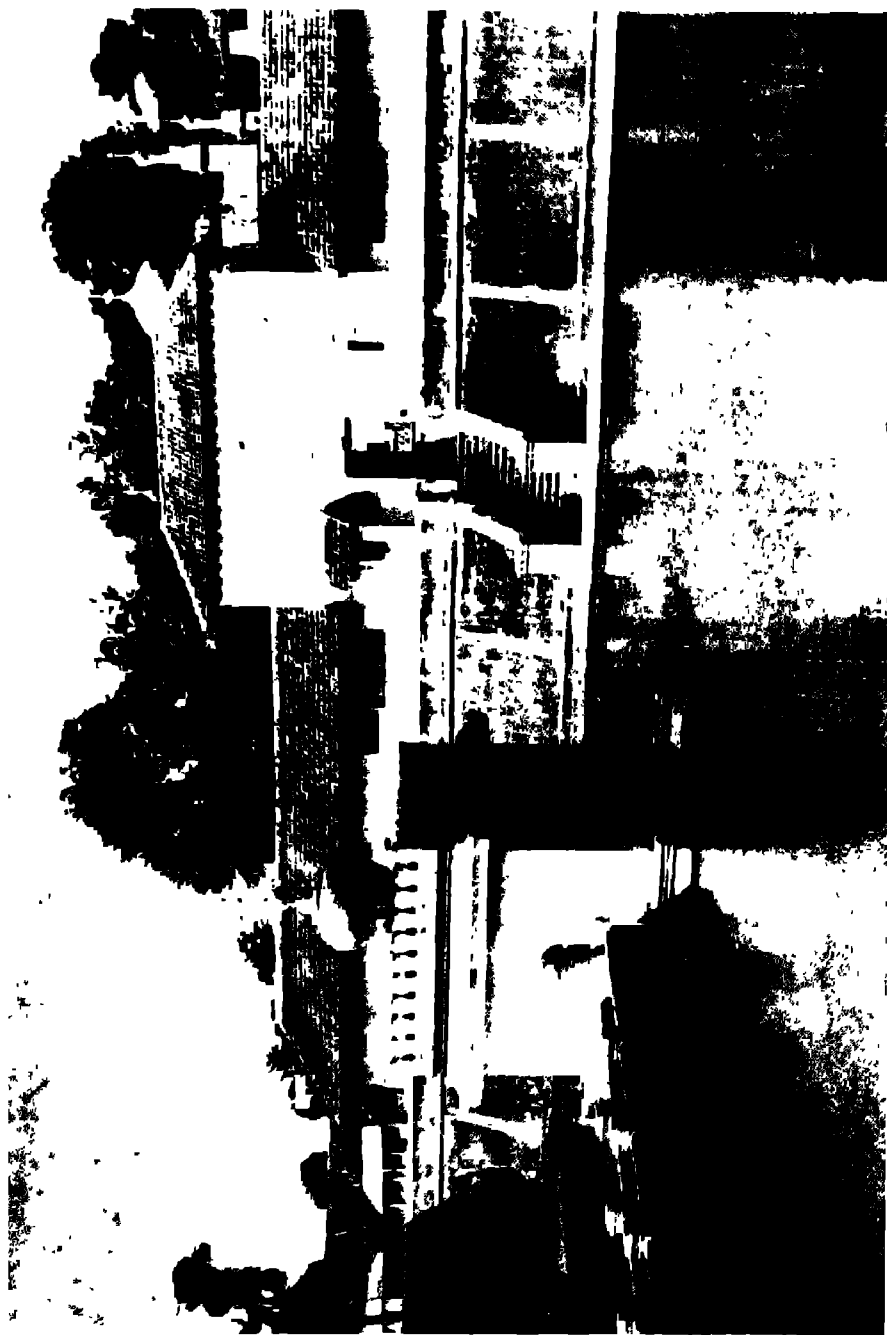
Statistical Outline of Community Development Programme in Mysore State, 1961.

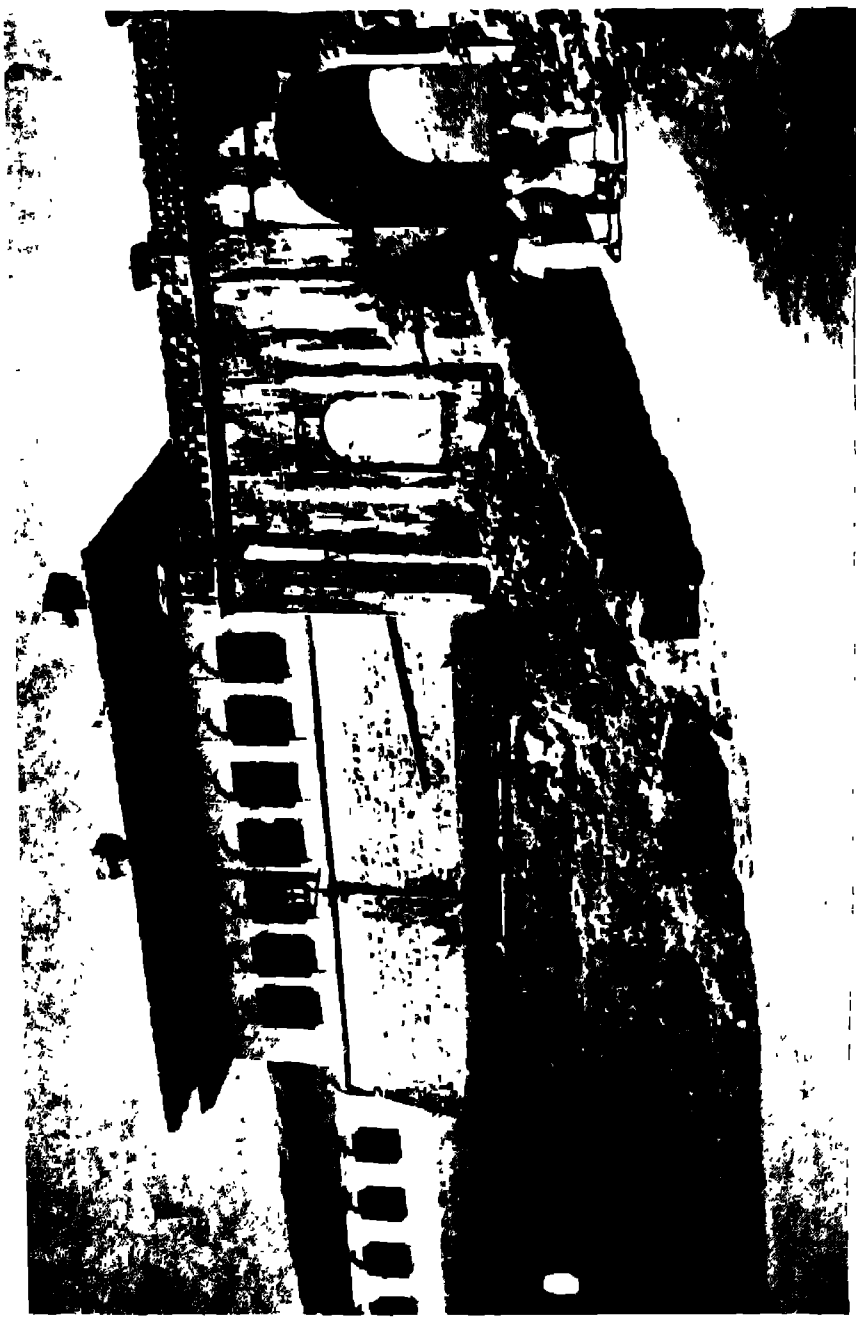
Statistical Outline of Mysore, 1960, 1961 and 1962

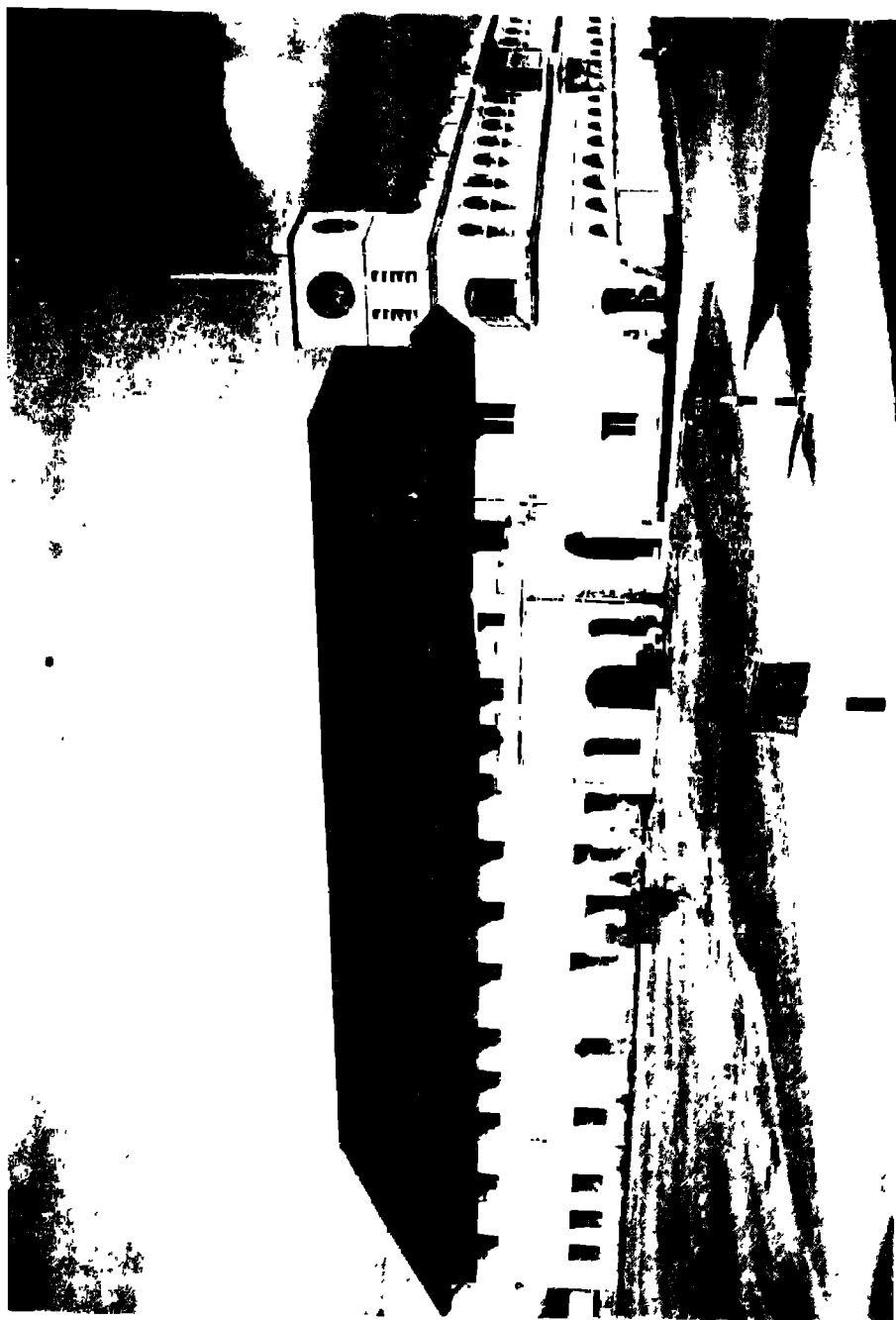
Supplement to the Hindu, Madras, on the Reorganisation of States in India, 1956.

Survey of Indian Industry, 1960 and 1961 (issued by the Hindu, Madras)

Survey Report on the Marketing of Pepper in Mysore State (prepared by the Marketing Department).

Syllabuses approved by the Educational Integration Advisory Committee.

Entrance to Sri Omkareshwara Temple, Mercara, with the tank in the foreground

(See page 516)

Entrance to the Fort at Mercara.

(See pages 515 and 516)

The Palace at Mercara which now houses the District Offices.

(See pages 515 and 516)

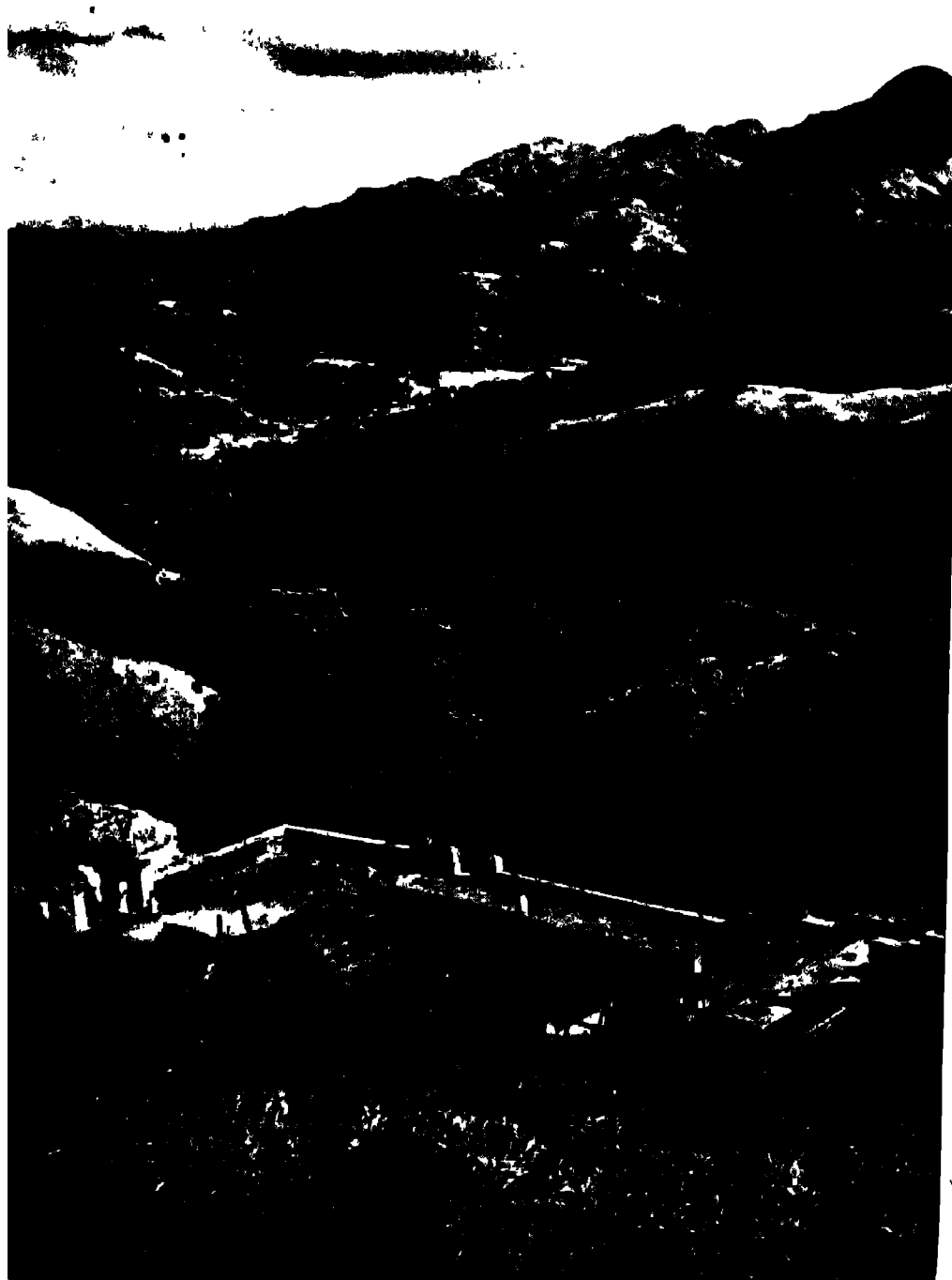
Raja's Seat, Mercara, where the Rajas of Coorg used to sit and enjoy the natural grandeur around

A panoramic view from Raja's Seat, Mercara.

(See page 517)

Tombs (Gaddige) of Virarajendra and Lingarajendra at Mercara.

Tourist Home on the Stewart Hill, Mercara

(See page 518)

Talakaveri, the source of the Cauvery river on the Brahmagiri Hills.

(See pages 523 to 52(

INDEX

B